

Appointments.

MATRONS.

Miss Margaret Patteson has been appointed Matron of the Clapham Maternity Hospital, in place of Miss L. M. Wainwright, who lately resigned. Miss Patteson was trained (3 years) at Bolton Infirmary, and subsequently held the appointment of Theatre Sister (nine months), and Night Sister (six months) at the same hospital. She was then Charge Nurse of the Male Surgical Ward of the Royal Halifax Infirmary for thirteen months, and then Sister of the Male Medical and Surgical Ward at the Royal Hospital, Portsmouth, taking the Assistant-Matron's holiday duty. In 1899 she was trained in Midwifery at the Clapham School of Midwifery, and from there took the L.O.S. certificate. Since then she has been at Rudgwick Sanatorium, Sussex, first as Charge Nurse, and for the last year as Matron. This post she will only leave in time to take up her new duties at Clapham Maternity Hospital.

Miss E. A. M'Laren has been appointed Matron at the Seaham Harbour Infirmary. She was trained at Rotherham Hospital, Yorkshire, and has also held the positions of Charge Nurse at the Lewisham Fever Hospital, and Nurse in Charge of the sick wards of Lanark Combination Poor-house.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Miss Nancy Hetty Thorpe has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Brook Hospital, Shooter's Hill. Miss Thorpe was trained at the Croydon Infirmary, and subsequently obtained the three years' certificate of St. John's House in connection with which she received her training for a short time at Charing Cross Hospital, and afterwards at the Metropolitan Hospital in the Kingsland Road. Subsequently she was appointed Charge Nurse, and afterwards Night Superintendent at the Brook Hospital.

Deeply Regretted.

We regret to record the recent death of Miss Ayliff, head of the Trained Nurses' Institute, St. James's Street, Dover, which occurred somewhat suddenly. Miss Ayliff had been lady-in-charge of the institute since its establishment in 1874, and she had done much good work in an unostentatious manner in connection with free nursing for the poor. Miss Ayliff was taken ill and died the same night from an affection of the heart. She was deeply respected, and will be greatly missed, but it is well to die in harness.

The Registered Nurses' Society.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Committee, in presenting their Seventh Annual Report, have much pleasure in congratulating the Society upon its continued progress and success, and as a Nurses' Co-operation is primarily a commercial association, it is satisfactory that the Registered Nurses' Society year by year can show a regularly progressive income and a substantial surplus for further development of the Society. The earnings of the Sisters who have been members



throughout the past twelve months have varied from £163 16s. od. for fifty-two weeks' work, to £81 18s. od. for twenty-seven weeks' work, the average being no less than £90 for an average of 36.6 weeks' work. Almost every member took eight weeks' leave, and the average earnings of each of the above Sisters per week was £2 9s. This is highly satisfactory, especially when it is realised that hundreds of so-called nurses are working in London at less than the two guinea a week fee, and that many institutions not on the co-operative system still undersell the well-trained, certificated nurse by supplying an inferior worker at a smaller fee.

During the year, while a large number of medical practitioners who previously supported the Society have continued to give their kind help to it, no less than 112 new doctors have commenced to employ the members of the Registered Nurses' Society—a fact of the greatest encouragement, as proving the increasing reputation of the nursing staff amongst those best able to judge of the manner in which they do their duty. Indeed it is most satisfactory to report that, during the past twelve months, not one serious complaint of any kind has been made officially in reference to any member, and, at the same time, numbers of letters have been received expressing opinions which reflect the highest credit upon the work and conduct of the members. The system whereby the members are represented on the Committee by six of the nursing staff has worked most satisfactorily, and it is most encouraging to note that those Sisters who have been able to attend the Committee, and take an active part in the management of the Society, have realised their responsibility, and grasped the importance of the principle of self-government. To Sister Fawkes her colleagues are specially indebted for the interest she has taken in her duties, and as her term of service is at an end for a time, we part with her co-operation with regret. Sisters Fawkes, Hewett, and Tudor retire by rotation, and Sisters Christina Edwards, Sadleir, and MacEwen were elected to replace them.

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