

sure two nurses, one of whom placed the bottle in the wrong cupboard, while the other used it without looking at the label.

Dr. J. Willington Wilmshurst held an inquest at Rugby on Saturday upon Annie Cotterill, a trained nurse, who died suddenly in a train between Stafford and Rugby early the same morning. The deceased, who was thirty-four years of age, had been certified as fit for duty in South Africa, and left Preston, Lancashire, at 1.45 a.m., in company with her sister-in-law. She was going to Southampton to sail on Monday, and was somewhat upset at leaving her friends. Soon after leaving Stafford, Miss Cotterill was seen to fall forward, and she expired immediately. The medical evidence was that death was due to failure of the heart, accelerated by over-excitement. It was stated that she had previously suffered from muscular rheumatism, and several doctors had told her she had a weak heart.

Many complaints have reached us of the physical unfitness of several of the Army Nursing Service Reserve sent out to South Africa. It would be interesting to know who is responsible for their medical inspection before they are passed for active service.

We regret to record the death of Miss Elizabeth Whitehead, the Superintendent Nurse of the Chelmsford Workhouse Infirmary. Miss Whitehead has been chief nurse of this institution for sixteen years, and was deeply respected by the Board, and all her fellow workers, as the affectionate inscriptions on the many memorial wreaths with which her coffin was covered amply proved.

It is reported that Dr. Sophus Bang, the manager of the laboratory belonging to Professor Finsen, at Copenhagen, the famous inventor of the light cure for lupus, has constructed a special electric lamp, giving a feeble light, but one extremely rich in chemical rays. In this lamp Dr. Bang has used metal instead of carbon poles. The result is that he has obtained chemical rays and bacteria-killing power ten times as great as can be got from the ordinary electric arc-lamp. This discovery will prove of the greatest importance in the treatment of disease by light. A lupus patient, who now requires treating for seventy-five minutes at each operation, will only require from three to five minutes' treatment with the new lamp. The lamp is, moreover, comparatively very cheap, costing only about £3. It can, also, be fitted to any ordinary electric light installation. If this lamp proves a success, it will be an immense boon to sufferers from the terrible disease of lupus.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



A beautiful example of her late Majesty's own handiwork, in the form of a knitted quilt, was the last gift of Queen Victoria to the aged inmates of the Isle of Wight Workhouse Infirmary. The board of guardians have resolved that this treasured memento—which one member said would fetch £1,000 in America—should be enclosed in a glass case and used as a screen, in order to preserve it permanently.

By the munificence of the late Mr. James Staples, the Hull Royal Infirmary and the Hull Victoria Hospital for Sick Children have received a bequest of £2,000 each.

The Royal National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor, has received a donation of £1,000 from Mr. Peregrine Purvis.

Epidemics of enteric fever have broken out at Raunds, in Northamptonshire, and also at Grimsby, in the New Clee district, and it is feared that the suffering of the fisher-folk, caused by the strike in the fish trade, will greatly accelerate the deaths, owing to the poverty and privation of the people. The fever is spreading to an alarming extent.

A paragraph in the *Maritime Register* gives a brief resumé of the good work of Dr. William Jenkins, Health Commissioner of New York City, in aid of the Merchants' Marine Hospital Service.

In 1895, says the *Register*, Dr. William T. Jenkins established, after consultation with leading owners of foreign ships, a merchants' marine hospital service for foreign tramp steamers on similar lines as the United States Marine Hospital Service, established by the United States Government for American vessels. The original purpose was to give medical attendance and hospital service to foreign sailors. The service, as now extended, furnishes medical and surgical supplies to foreign vessels, and supervises the burial of dead foreign sailors. The service is now in successful operation under able physicians in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk, Newport News, Savannah, Brunswick, Charleston, Mobile, New Orleans, Pearl River, Pensacola, and Galveston. All prominent American, and a number of foreign ship-owners are now subscribers, and recommend the service highly for the following reasons:—

1. An excellent medical service, which leaves your officers and agents free to attend to the real business of your ships.
2. A minimum cost for medical supplies.
3. Prevention of rebates of any kind or character to any person except those legitimately entitled to same, namely, the owner or manager for the owner.
4. An interest in the service which will give you every advantage possessed by a regular liner at Atlantic and Gulf ports.

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