

Appointments.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

Miss Lucy Binns has been appointed Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Hull. She was trained for three years at the General Infirmary, Leeds, where she subsequently was appointed Theatre Sister. She has also been Night Superintendent at the Royal Infirmary, Derby, in which institution she has for the last two years and a half held the position of Assistant Matron.

MATRON.

Miss L. Mary Paine has been appointed Matron of the Hospital, Gravesend. She was trained at the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, and has held the positions of Night Superintendent at the Walsall and District Hospital, where she also acted as Matron's locum tenens for three months, and of Ward Sister and Assistant Matron at the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich, which last post she still holds.

Miss Helen N. Anderson has been appointed Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Galashiels. She received her training at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and has held the positions of Nurse in St. Vigean's Combination Poor House, Arbroath, Matron of the Jan Charles Hospital, Grantown, and Queen's Nurse at East Wemyss, Fife.

SISTER.

Miss Margaret B. Vickers has been appointed Sister at the Children's Hospital, Bradford. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, where she subsequently held the position of Sister. She has also had some experience of private nursing in connection with the Yorkshire Co-operation for Nurses at Leeds.

Miss Berta L. Harper has been appointed Theatre Sister at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh. She was trained at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, and has held the position of Sister in a surgical ward in the same institution.

NIGHT SISTER.

Miss Maude B. Akehurst has been appointed Night Sister at the London Fever Hospital, Islington, N. She received her training at the Torbay Hospital, and at the General Hospital, Croydon. She also had experience of infectious nursing for eighteen months at the Borough Hospital, Croydon. She has also held the positions of Charge Nurse at the Victoria Hospital, Kingston, and at the City Hospital East, Liverpool, and Night Superintendent at the Ham Green Hospital, Bristol.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

Miss Mina Haslitt has been appointed Superintendent Nurse at the Workhouse Infirmary, Kingston-upon-Hull. She was trained at the Crumpsall Infirmary, Manchester, where she has since held the position of Night Superintendent.

The International Congress of Nurses.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1901.

PRIVATE NURSING.

THE OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GRADUATE NURSE OF TO-DAY.

FIRST PAPER,

By KATHERINE DEWITT,

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The question of opportunity is not a difficult one. The problems which are facing the nursing world are of such importance, are so much in evidence, and are so insistent that a nurse must be blind and deaf who is ignorant of their existence. The thinkers and workers in the nursing profession all over the world are considering the questions of registration, preliminary training, teachers' courses, uniformity of education, combinations of small or special hospitals, post-graduate work, and the maintenance of alumnae associations. These and similar themes press closely upon us and demand attention. The difficulty lies in the question of responsibility. Who should bear it?

Graduate nurses may be divided into three classes—those who hold hospital positions, those who do private nursing, and those who have married or have for other reasons retired into private life. Their interest in nursing affairs dwindles as they get farther away in space or time from their place of training. Very few who have given up nursing work retain more than a vague interest in our doings. Those who do, those who hold the motto, "Once a nurse, always a nurse," are the most valuable of workers. They often have more leisure for thinking, more time to devote to official responsibilities, and a broader view of affairs than those who are still in the ranks.

Private nurses have been in the past a most self-absorbed and indifferent body of women, thinking only of their personal aims and interests, caring little for their fellows. Those who have held hospital positions, especially hospital superintendents, being in constant touch with nursing affairs and seeing the abuses which need reform, have been the pioneers in all progressive movements and have laboured almost alone. The alumnae associations, growing in all directions, are beginning to get hold of the scattered private nurses and to arouse their interest, but all graduate nurses, in whatever walk in life, have opportunities which should appeal to them—responsibilities which they should not shirk.

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