

Appointments.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

Miss Jean Duncan has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Nottingham Private Nursing Association, Nottingham. She was trained at the General Hospital, Birmingham, and has held the position of Nurse at St. Thomas's Hospital, and Charge Nurse at St. George's Hospital, London, and of Matron of Dr. Jessop's Surgical Home at Leeds.

MATRONS.

Miss C. Ethel Chaffer has been appointed Matron of the Fever Hospital, Darlington. She was trained at the Clinical Hospital, Manchester, and the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, and has held the appointments of Charge Nurse at the South-Eastern and at the Park Fever Hospitals, London; Sister at the Fever Hospital, Portsmouth; Sister at the Children's Hospital, Nottingham; temporary Matron of the Throat Hospital, Golden Square; Matron of the Western General Dispensary, Marylebone Road; and Matron-in-Charge of the Isolation Home in connection with the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Colchester.

Miss Mary Munro has been appointed Matron of the Isolation Hospital, Menston, Yorkshire. She was trained at the London Hospital, and has held the position of Head Nurse at the Cottage Hospital, Goole; Charge Nurse at the Brook Fever Hospital, Shooter's Hill; Matron at the Convalescent Home, Bona, Inverness; and Sister at the Sanatorium, Chingford.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Miss Jane Phelps has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Prudhoe Memorial Convalescent Home, Whitley Bay, Northumberland. She was trained at the Clayton Hospital, Wakefield, where she subsequently held the position of Sister for four years. She then did a year's private nursing in connection with the Queen Victoria's Nursing Institution, Wolverhampton, and for the last three years has held the position of Night Superintendent at Clayton Hospital, Wakefield.

SISTER.

Miss Maud Lindsay Smith has been appointed Sister at the Infirmary, Lewisham. She was trained at King's College Hospital, and has held the position of Sister and Night Superintendent at the Grimsby Hospital.

CHARGE NURSES.

Miss Sarah Lindsay has been appointed Charge Nurse at the Beverley Union Workhouse Infirmary. She was trained at the Sculcoates Union Infirmary, Hull, and has held the position of Assistant Nurse under the Weymouth Union.

Miss Ethel Oliver has been appointed Charge Nurse at the Beverley Union Workhouse Infirmary. She was trained at the Union Infirmary, Darlington.

State Registration of Nurses.

The following manifesto, drawn up by Mr. Sydney Holland, Chairman of the London Hospital, has been signed by employers of nurses, and by Matrons who have ranged themselves on the side of the employer, and who are opposed to the elevation of nursing into a recognised profession, organised and controlled by State authority, for the benefit of nurses and the protection of the public:—

THE MANIFESTO.

We, the undersigned, feel called upon to make the following statement in view of the steps that are being taken to obtain, by Act of Parliament, a State Registration of Nurses.

The objects claimed for such Registration are:—

(a) The benefit to the public, who would, it is said, be enabled to ascertain from the Register the competency of the nurse employed, and would be protected from unskilled and incompetent persons.

(b) The benefit to the "trained Nurses" themselves, who are alleged to be placed at a disadvantage by the employment of imperfectly-trained persons.

We believe that these claims are mistaken, and that any system of State Registration would be detrimental to the public and harmful to the nurses themselves, for the following reasons:—

1. Inasmuch as any system of Registration must be based on the results of testing by examination the technical capabilities of a nurse, it of necessity raises to a predominant position this side of her work, and leaves entirely unconsidered those personal qualities upon which her main value depends, such as good temper, manner, tact, discretion, patience, and unselfish womanliness. It is these characteristics which cannot be ascertained by examination, and which no system of Registration can include.

The experience of those concerned in the training of nurses and supplying them to the public shows that it is the want of these qualities in a nurse which gives rise to complaints on the part of patients and their friends. It is seldom that a want of adequate technical training is the ground of fault-finding.

Moreover, it is the difference in the comparative value of the technical skill and the personal qualities in the making of a nurse which constitutes the essential difference between her and a doctor as regards the applicability of a system of Registration, and renders the analogy, so often made, entirely fallacious. A doctor's technical knowledge takes many years to acquire, and his education is tested at various stages by authorised bodies, and, however important his personal character may be, it is for his skill and knowledge primarily that he is consulted. But, without desiring to underrate the importance of the technical knowledge of the nurse, it is certain that—apart from a speciality, such as

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