

heart failure in this disease. The principal causes are: first, the toxæmia; second, the mechanical obstruction to the circulation in the lung, causing overburdening and dilatation, especially of the right heart; third, the alteration in the physical and chemical constitution of the blood, which, apart from the toxic effect on nervous and muscular action, central and cardiac, predisposes to the formation of *ante-mortem* clot. Among the most important of rare causes are hyperpyrexia and a sudden paralysis of inexplicable origin. Two great classes of drugs are available. One may be used to support the heart and circulation during the progress of the disease, and the other reserved for emergencies. The first class includes digitalis, barium chloride, strychnine, and atropine. Digitalis may be used as soon as hepatisation is present. Before this, aconite and veratrum are indicated. For emergency service, Dr. Cohen recommends adrenalin, camphor, and musk. For administering the first-named he prefers to employ suprarenalin triturates containing  $\frac{1}{20}$  grain active principle in a very small quantity of sugar of milk. They dissolve quickly and do not fill the mouth with liquid. Such a tablet may be given every ten minutes, if needed. Camphor may be injected hypodermically in a 10 per cent. solution in sterilised olive oil or in 10 per cent. solution in ether. Exact dosage is unnecessary; about a syringeful, say from 20 to 30 minims, can be used. The effect is prompt, and usually lasts for some hours. The injection is to be repeated as needed. Five or ten drops of tincture of musk given hypodermically exert a powerful influence in overcoming the tendency to cardiac collapse, and the action of musk is even more sustained than that of camphor. Care should be taken to secure a reliable preparation of musk.

#### HARVARD CANCER COMMISSION.

The Harvard Cancer Commission, which was appointed four years ago to conduct an exhaustive inquiry into the cause and general nature of cancerous growths, has finished its labours and has made public its report. The results of its work are largely negative.

It says it has been unable to find the origin of the disease, and that experiments indicate it is not brought about by germs of vegetable parasites. The Commission declares that as yet no new form of treatment can be regarded as having proven itself to be able to cure the disease, and that the only remedy is the surgeon's knife. It is convinced that cancer is not hereditary.

## Appointments.

### MATRONS.

Miss Alice E. Seaton has been appointed Matron of the Exmouth Cottage Hospital. She was trained at the Isleworth Infirmary, and has held the position of Assistant Matron at St. Clement's Orphanage, Truro; of District Nurse in connection with Acton Cottage Hospital; and of Ward Sister at the Isleworth Infirmary.

Miss L. C. Carruthers has been appointed Matron of the Hutcheson Nursing Home, Cairo. She was trained at St. George's Hospital, London, and also holds a medico-psychological certificate, having obtained experience in this branch of nursing before entering for her general training.

Miss Jeannie Booth has been appointed Nurse-Matron of the Wortley Rural District Isolation Hospital. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

### ASSISTANT MATRON.

Miss Mary Davies has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool. She was trained at Guy's Hospital, London.

### SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

Miss Frances Hannah Laws has been appointed Superintendent Nurse at the Union Workhouse, Solihull, near Birmingham. She was trained at the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, and has held the position of Superintendent Nurse at the Town Hospital, Guernsey.

### STAFF NURSE.

Miss Agnes Fry has been appointed Staff Nurse at St. Albans Hospital, Herts. She was trained at Southport Infirmary.

## Items of Interest.

We welcome a new issue of the *Queen's Nurses' Magazine*, which contains many interesting articles. It makes its appearance on January 1st, May 1st, and September 1st, and all who know it look forward with pleasurable anticipation to the appearance of its pretty blue cover.

A meeting to discuss the subject of the Registration of Nurses by the State was held at Bournemouth on Thursday last. We hope to give some account of the proceedings in our next issue. The chair was taken by Dr. Hyla Greves, and the speakers included Miss Amy Hughes and Miss A. J. Hobbs (London), Miss M. Mollett (Southampton), the Mayor of Bournemouth, Miss Georgina Scott, and Miss Broad (Bournemouth).

Miss Mary Dunne, late Queen's Nurse, Radcliffe, Lancashire, who resigned the appointment on account of her approaching marriage, has been presented with an illuminated address by the medical practitioners of the town.

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