

**Practical Points.**

**Epidemic Pneumonia,**

In an extremely interesting article on this subject in *The Bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital* Dr. Marshall Fabian says: Certain articles from the sick-room seem able to transmit the contagion. Flindt reports a case in which the coverings of a bed in which a pneumonia patient died were carried to a house two miles away and, four weeks later, used on the bed of a child, who promptly developed pneumonia. Another child developed pneumonia three days after his father started to repair a chair which was being used by a patient convalescing from pneumonia.

The spread of pneumonia in institutions and cities is only another form of these epidemics. In hospitals bed to bed infection, or the development of several cases in one ward, has suggested the contagiousness of pneumonia, but with ordinary precautions there seems to be very slight danger. A. H. Smith records one case in which the nurse died of the infection caught from her patient. Girdiner reports a second one. Edsall and Ghrikey record a severe case of pneumonia which ended fatally; the two patients who next occupied the bed had mild attacks; two others in nearby beds developed pneumococcal infections; still another case occurred soon after, perhaps by contagion. Upon thorough disinfection no other cases developed.

These instances demonstrate the importance of careful disinfection by the nurse, both of her own hands and of appliances used for a patient suffering from pneumonia.

**The Advantages of Hot Sponging.**

Sponging with hot water is preferable in most cases to the cold or tepid sponging, with which we have all been familiar for many years.

In cases of pneumonia, where there is a great deal of restlessness and delirium, sponging with water at a temperature of 110 degs. to 115 degs. Fahr. will be found to have a much more soothing effect on the patient than tepid or cold sponging, the skin becomes more moist, the temperature falls as low, and continues down for a longer time than after cold sponging, therefore the patient does not need disturbing so frequently, there is much less delirium, and the patient will usually sleep for some time afterwards.

In kidney cases, when hot packs or hot air baths are ordered by the doctor, if the patient is sponged with hot water for five or ten minutes after the pack has been given, the skin will be found to act more freely, and the patient will feel much more comfortable. In cases of insomnia, sponging all over for ten minutes with hot water will often do away with the need for the sedative drugs, which so often have a harmful effect on the patient when given frequently, and the sleep obtained will be much more restful and refreshing.

R. HOLDSWORTH.

**Appointments.**

**MATRONS.**

**City Mental Hospital, Cardiff.**—Miss Florence E. Raynes has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Mary (Islington) Infirmary, and has held the position of Charge Nurse at the Norfolk County Asylum, and of Sister at the Gloucester General Infirmary. She holds the certificate of the Medico-Psychological Association.

**Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Dublin.**—Miss Alice Reeves has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Adelaide Hospital, Dublin, where she has since held various positions of responsibility.

**NURSE MATRON.**

**Isolation Hospital, Sealand, Chester.**—Miss Agnes M. Dickson has been appointed Nurse Matron. She was trained at the Chester Infirmary.

**ASSISTANT MATRON.**

**North Evington Infirmary, Leicester.**—Miss Catherine Jenkins has been appointed Second Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Portsmouth Parish Infirmary, where she has held the position of Charge Nurse. She has also been Night Superintendent at the North Evington Infirmary. She is a Certified Midwife.

**SISTERS.**

**North Evington Infirmary, Leicester.**—Miss Ellen Farman has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Tonbridge Infirmary, where she has held the position of Charge Nurse, as well as that of Staff Nurse at the North Evington Infirmary.

**Shoreditch Infirmary, Kingsland Road, N.E.**—Miss Ellen Jane Hazzard has been appointed Ward Sister. She was trained at the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, where she has held the position of Theatre Sister, and has been Charge Nurse at the South Eastern Hospital, New Cross, S.E., under the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

**Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bootle.**—Miss C. Owen has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and has held the position of Sister at the Baguley Sanatorium, Timperley, Cheshire.

**Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle.**—Miss Ethel Timpson has been appointed Theatre Sister. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and has held the position of Sister at the Ayr County Hospital.

**NIGHT SISTERS.**

**Rotherham Hospital and Dispensary.**—Miss I. Milne Mitchell has been appointed Night Sister. She was trained at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, and has held the position of Theatre Sister in the same institution.

**North Evington Infirmary, Leicester.**—Miss S. J. Bridgen has been appointed Night Superintendent. She was trained at the Leeds Union Infirmary, where she held the position of Staff Nurse. She has also been Sister at the North Evington Infirmary. She is a Certified Midwife.

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