

Appointments.

MATRON.

MISS AMY L. BURLEIGH has been appointed Matron of the Melbourne Hospital, Victoria, Australia. She was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and subsequently was appointed Night Superintendent at the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, E., where she was promoted to the position of Assistant Matron. While the Matron, Miss Beatrice Jones, who obtained six months' leave of absence for the purpose, was acting as a Nursing Sister in South Africa, Miss Burleigh performed the responsible duties of the Matron. She is a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Nurses. The Matronship of the Melbourne Hospital, which was held with so much credit by Miss Martha Farquharson, is considered the most important post in the nursing world in Victoria. We feel sure that Miss Burleigh will take to it the fine traditions of her training school.

MISS F. STRANGE has been appointed Matron of Chalmer's Hospital, Edinburgh. She was trained at the General Infirmary, Salisbury, and has held the positions of Staff Nurse at the Royal Hants Hospital, Winchester, Assistant Nurse at the Tiverton Infirmary, Charge Nurse at the Salisbury Infirmary, and Night Superintendent, and Sister at Chalmer's Hospital, Edinburgh.

MISS VON BERG, who held the position of Ward Sister at the Kingston Surrey Union Infirmary for nine months, has been appointed Matron of the International Hospital, Naples. She was trained at the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich.

WARD SISTER.

THE following Ward Sisters have been appointed at the Kingston Union Infirmary, where a Training School for Nurses has recently been established, viz:—

MISS JOYCE WILLIAMS, who was trained at the Infirmary, Croydon, for three and a half years, and holds the L.O.S. diploma, and who has been First Assistant Nurse at the Brook Fever Hospital, Shooter's Hill and has also had experience in private nursing at San Remo.

MISS JULIA HAIGH, who was trained for three years at the Union Infirmary, Nottingham, and holds the L.O.S. diploma.

MISS A. MCMANIS, who was trained for four years at the Westminster Hospital, London, and has since been Sister in Charge of the Union Infirmary, Shabury.

MISS L. E. SMITH, who was trained at the Union Infirmary, Sunderland, for three years. She holds the L.O.S. diploma and has recently held the position of Ward Sister at the Union Infirmary, King's Norton, Birmingham.

The South African Hospitals.

THE REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

THE Blue Book, containing the Report of the Royal Commission appointed to consider and report on the care and treatment of the sick and wounded in the South African Campaign, containing over seventy pages, has now been issued. The question dealt with is of such great importance that we do not propose to discuss the Report fully until we have had time to study it further; but, from a cursory glance through it, it appears to us to be a just and impartial summary of the situation in so far as the practical experience of the members of the Commission enabled them to form a judgment; but we cannot too strongly emphasise our belief, expressed on the appointment of the Commission, that the assistance and knowledge of a trained Superintendent of Nursing would have been of the utmost value to these gentlemen in dealing with practical nursing details. The commissioners recommend the appointment at an early date of a departmental or other committee of experts to inquire into and report on the steps needed to effect certain objects, some of which may be summarised as follows:—(1) The establishment of the staff of officers and orderlies of the Royal Army Medical Corps, and its equipment, on a scale sufficient to enable it to discharge adequately the duties ordinarily cast on it in times of peace, and by the smaller wars in which the Empire is frequently engaged; (2) regulations and provisions which will enable surgeons and trained orderlies in sufficient numbers to be rapidly obtained and added to the ordinary staff of the corps in the event of a great war; (3) the attraction to the Corps of a sufficient and regular supply of officers of good professional attainments, and the necessity of employing in the higher posts men selected for their merits rather than by seniority; (4) the employment, to a greater extent than that recognised and practised until the later stages of this war, of nurses in fixed hospitals for the care of the wounded and of fever and dysenteric patients; (5) the appointment of properly qualified officers of the Corps to undertake sanitary duties; (6) the improvement of the existing ambulance waggons; (7) the selection and employment of the form of hospital tents best suited for the reception of sick and wounded in a campaign.

Now that the Commission has given this verdict, and a departmental or other committee to deal with the points they enumerate will no doubt be formed, we once more point out the need for the presence of a trained Superintendent of Nursing on this committee.

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