

In conclusion it may be pointed out that Dr. Walther, of Nordrach, disapproves of the Plenum system as a substitution for natural ventilation, and that in hospitals where it is installed it is greatly to be feared that however good may be the theoretical teaching of nurses on the subject of ventilation, their practical knowledge of what may be termed "natural" as opposed to artificial methods must be lamentably deficient, and a source of danger to patients whom they may be nursing under the conditions usual to private houses.

Legal Matters.

MATRON v. MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

At the West Riding Assizes at Leeds on Saturday, before the Lord Chief Justice, an action for libel was brought by Miss Elizabeth Martin, of 262, Glossop Road, Sheffield, against Dr. Richard Grammer Allen, of Belper, the plaintiff claiming £500 damages. The plaintiff was Matron and the defendant Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital, Belper.

For the plaintiff it was stated that her professional qualifications were good. She was appointed Matron of the Belper Isolation Hospital in May, 1897. She found it in anything but a satisfactory state, and took steps to put it on a satisfactory basis. From the first there was friction between her and the defendant. On more than one occasion she had to remonstrate with him on the way he went about his work, and shortly after one of these complaints he wrote a letter to the Committee making grave charges against her. The defendant pleaded that this communication was privileged.

The hospital clerk gave evidence that he told the nurses, when they spoke to him, that complaints should be made in writing.

One complaint made by the Medical Superintendent was that visitors were allowed to mix indiscriminately with patients in the grounds, and in support of this a former inmate of the hospital gave evidence as to a visitor to the hospital returning later as a patient. She had seen the laundry woman morning and evening and did not think she changed her clothes. A sworn statement to the contrary was put in on this point.

Miss Athill, Lady Superintendent of the Royal Nurses' Institution at Derby, stated that Miss Martin had been under her for some time, and she declined to allow nurses from the institution to work under Miss Martin.

The Judge held that the statement of the Medical Superintendent to the Committee was privileged, and asked the jury to decide whether there was malice. After four hours' deliberation the jury were unable to agree. The case, therefore, is proceeding as we go to press.

Army Nursing Notes.

WAR MEDALS FOR NURSES.

The following ladies who have rendered good service in nursing sick and wounded soldiers attended at Marlborough House on July 29th, and had the honour of receiving the war medal from the King.

- A.—L. C. Agg, E. M. C. Anderson, E. J. Atkins, P. Ahnett.
- B.—J. Bulwan, M. M. Brown, E. R. Brown, G. Balfour, L. Basan, A. A. Bowles.
- C.—E. P. Carruthers, E. J. Cash, J. Charleson, A. B. Conyngham, L. G. Cooley, F. E. Cross, W. H. Crabtree, L. H. Craw, A. E. Cable, T. A. Cobbold, E. S. Cooper, R. A. Cox-Davies, E. J. Cumming, F. Colborne.
- D.—A. E. Davidson, A. F. Draper, G. Digwood.
- F.—A. Flowers, G. E. Frances, A. Fisher, E. W. Flanders, M. C. Fisher, G. Fletcher, W. J. Froneman, C. Fullagar.
- G.—M. J. Gordon, M. W. Goodhue, M. A. Grant, A. Grantham.
- H.—C. Hanbury, E. M. J. Halkett, R. G. Hill, A. Hilson, R. M. Hoare, E. M. Howard, B. Huston, C. M. Harvest, E. M. Herriott, A. F. Hislop.
- J.—B. J. Jones, W. G. Jones, A. E. Joscelyne.
- L.—J. S. Lambe, S. Lees, M. J. Lightfoot, M. Lowe, F. B. Lambert, E. A. Lee, E. Lewis, M. L. Loveday.
- M.—A. J. McCulloch, M. Miller, G. E. Morgan, M. A. Makins, E. McCaul.
- N.—A. Nixon.
- P.—M. F. Pick, M. Penrose.
- R.—H. Richardson, N. Redstone, A. F. Richardson, E. Richardson, A. G. Rogers, M. Rogers, H. Rook, M. E. Rowell, G. Ronaldson.
- S.—E. C. Shannon, J. R. Stenhouse, J. E. Skillman, M. J. Spencer, C. N. E. Steel, M. D. Stephenson, L. Schroder, H. M. Shaw, F. M. Shaw, A. S. Siddons.
- T.—C. M. Theophilus, W. R. Thompson, N. C. F. Tabuteau, W. D. Tripp, M. F. Truell, A. Tarr, G. Tillot, L. M. Tippetts.
- Y.—H. M. Young.
- W.—L. A. White, E. A. M. Wilson, E. Wilkin, F. M. G. Warrack, F. M. Wilkinson, L. J. B. Williams, A. J. Wilson, A. W. Walkinshaw, C. Walker, A. J. Williams.

We are indebted to the courtesy of the Commander in Chief for the information that the following Nursing Sisters have recently proceeded to South Africa:—

N. Newton (N. S. Wales N.S.), A. G. Cocks (S. Australian N.S.), C. Campbell (Civilian N.S.), M. G. Hill (A.N.S.), and the following sisters from the A.N.S.R.:—E. Croft, H. J. Henderson,

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