

may become infected by the contents of the spittoons, cannot be overlooked. These reasons induce us to recommend in place of the expensive and unnecessarily strong spittoons at present in use those constructed of lighter, cheaper, and easily combustible materials. For their destruction a small domestic stove is sufficient, whereas in a hospital or sanatorium a crematory is cheap, besides being easy of manipulation.

The idea itself will awaken in the field of industry the means of carrying it into effect, and to appreciate how easy is its realisation, one has only to call to mind the useless articles which are offered us by advertisement from day to day. By suggesting an appropriate pattern, as for example the boxes in which cakes are sent out, every industry connected with compressed paper, liminated wood, celluloid, or even metals of a friable nature, will compete in producing what is required. Trivial as this subject may seem, there appears to us to be so much to be done in the way of prevention of tuberculosis, that we believe it worthy of being brought to the notice of this Congress: and, in conclusion, while thanking you for your kind indulgence, I beg to recommend that:—

1. In place of spittoons or handkerchiefs "hygienic paper" should always be employed for the reception of saliva, the paper to be immediately burnt.

2. Collecting spittoons which must be placed everywhere, should be constructed of a material easily destructible by fire, so that they may be replaced from day to day.

Appointments.

MATRON.

Miss J. L. Thomson has been appointed Matron of the New Fever Hospital for the Dundee and Forfar District at Forfar. She received her training at the City Hospital, Edinburgh, and for some time acted as Matron of the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Portobello.

SISTER.

Miss Florence E. Jones has been appointed Sister of the male wards of the Greek Hospital, Alexandria. She was trained at the Warneford and South Warwickshire General Hospital at Leamington.

Miss Alice E. Swain has been appointed Sister of the women and children's wards at the same hospital. She was trained at the Woman's Hospital, Nottingham, where she eventually held the position of Sister. She has also been Charge Nurse at the Jaffray Hospital, Birmingham, and at the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital.

Nurses of Note.

Mlle. BOTTARD.

After sixty years spent in the service of the sick and suffering in the Salpêtrière Hospital at Paris—a hospital having some 7,000 inmates—Mlle. Bottard, the doyenne of French nurses, is about to retire, at 84 years of age.

When she relinquishes her professional duties she will not, however, leave the hospital where she has spent so many years of her life. Her long service entitles her by the rules of the foundation to free quarters within its walls for life.

We have on more than one occasion given some account of the work of this remarkable French woman. The daughter of a farmer, the third child in a family of fifteen, she entered the Salpêtrière as a servant in January, 1841. It was soon noticed that she had a peculiar gift which enabled her to calm mad women, and she was promoted to the grade of sub-warder, or *surveillante*, in which she worked for ten years. It was she who began the work of separating the epileptics from the insane, with such good result, and for over forty years she was the valued assistant of Dr. Charcot, the great French specialist, in the control of hysterical and epileptic patients.

"For these unhappy sufferers," said another celebrated doctor in his report on the hospital, "Mlle. Bottard had only the sweetest words of affection at all times. A voluntary recluse, she devoted the whole of her life to their relief, and for three whole years she never crossed the outer threshold of the institution, forgetting everything in her affectionate devotion to the sick and afflicted."

During her long professional experience Mlle. Bottard has been called on to fight many epidemics, but she has passed through them unscathed.

By her side, however, it has been her melancholy lot to see several of the greatest men in France fall martyrs to their devotion to science, notably Dr. Heiney, director of the Salpêtrière, who died in 1849 during a cholera epidemic that claimed its victims in the hospital by hundreds; and Dr. Gobert, another director, who died worn out with his exertions on behalf of the wounded during the Franco-German War. Mlle. Bottard herself during the same terrible struggle played the part of a heroine.

In 1898 President Felix Faure decorated her with the Cross of the Legion of Honour, and it was amid the rapturous plaudits of the greatest and best-known women of France and his own smiling tears that in the January of that year the French President pinned the red ribbon of the order to the corsage of this venerable nurse.

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