

the occasion, and explained that while in the commercial world the tendencies of the day are towards consolidation and concentration, scientific work tends to specialisation. The result is that instead of having hospitals where all varieties of diseases are treated in one building, the work is divided. The patients are more minutely and scientifically cared for, and the work for one class of patients can be much more thoroughly and better done when it is made a special work. This principle of specialisation which underlies the demand for the quick and better treatment of the sick and injured in the business portion of the city, has made this relief station desirable.

The President of the hospital said further: The trustees do not intend that this shall be a hospital in the usual sense of the word. The situation and surroundings are not favourable to proper hospital conditions. Primarily, it is intended that prompt and efficient aid shall be rendered to the sick, or to persons who, from various reasons, need surgical or medical relief, practically including all classes of emergency cases. This relief station will be supplied with two first-class horse and one automobile ambulance. The trustees intend to have the ambulances accompanied by an ambulance surgeon, in order to render the best possible service. Patients who are brought to this relief station by our own ambulances, police ambulances, or others, will receive immediate attention, according to the necessity of each case. Patients with ordinary injuries or ailments which are not serious, such as ordinary fractures and injuries not requiring them to be placed in bed for a time, and where the operation or treatment is not a question of life or death, will be transferred to the City Hospital, other hospitals, or to homes, as the patient prefers. It will also offer care and medical aid to those who are so seriously injured that life seems possible for only a few hours. For this purpose a limited number of beds are furnished. In order that the relief station may be run according to the best methods now used at the hospital proper, it will be organised by practically having the entire household, professional, nursing, and domestic, made up of those who have been trained in hospital work according to our system.

Miss Bowen, the first Assistant Superintendent at the Boston City Hospital, so deservedly popular, has been appointed Matron of the Relief Station, and Miss Washburne promoted from second to first Assistant, Miss Lord succeeding Miss Washburne. British delegates who were so delightfully entertained at Boston will be interested in these appointments, and unite with us in wishing these charming women success and happiness in their new spheres of usefulness.

Legal Matters.

WHO SAYS REGISTRATION?

MURDER CHARGE.

Sarah Russell, described as a nurse, of 48, Clifton Hill, New Cross, was recently charged, on remand before Mr. Kettle at Greenwich, with causing the death of Annie Thompson, of Deptford, by means of an illegal operation. We note that Dr. Creighton in his evidence stated that the death was due to septicæmia, caused by a blunt instrument used with some force, and in course of cross-examination said that nurses were "in the habit of keeping such instruments for legitimate purposes." We know of no such legitimate purposes, except when a nurse is custodian of instruments for a hospital or medical man. Neither a nurse nor a midwife is entitled to use such an instrument for any purpose whatsoever. Sarah Russell was remanded.

FRAUDS ON THE CHARITABLE.

Martha Elsie, who recently appeared in the dock at the Clerkenwell Sessions in the uniform of a hospital nurse, pleaded guilty to having obtained £1 by false pretences from the Rev. Father Patrick Raleigh, of St. Monica's Priory, Hoxton. She called on the Father, told thrilling stories of her experiences as Matron of a band of nurses in South Africa, stated that on the previous day she had had an interview with Lord Roberts, who sent for her from Charing Cross Hospital, and announced his intention of presenting her with the D.S.O. in connection with her work in the war. On the plea that some of the nurses badly needed new outfits, she obtained a donation from Father Raleigh, who subsequently on enquiry at Charing Cross Hospital discovered the imposition practised upon him, and gave information to the police which led to the arrest of the prisoner. Detective-sergeant Pryde proved that in March, 1900, the prisoner was sentenced at the Manchester Police Court to three months' imprisonment. She had carried on frauds of this sort in England, Ireland, and America. She was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.

DESCRIBED AS A NURSE.

Mrs. Brookes, described as a nurse, living at Villiers Road, Willesden Green, was fined at the Willesden Police Court 10s. and costs for failing to take reasonable precautions when she placed in her garden poisoned bread and butter "to kill rats and mice," which proved fatal to some of her neighbours' cats, and incidentally endangered the lives of children who could creep through the garden fence.

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