

it goes on equably, does not of necessity seriously affect the transparency of the whole. Not infrequently, however, the contracting fibres leave fissures between themselves which are filled by drops of a transparent fluid, and give rise to striated opacities, usually radiating from the centre and mapping out the section of the lens. It may seem at first sight strange that a combination of transparent lens fibre and transparent fluid should produce opacity, but the refractive indices of the two are different and loss of light takes place at every surface. Just in the same way, a piece of glass may be transparent and yet, when reduced to powder and mixed with air, is densely opaque. Such opacities do not as a rule affect the central part, but rather the marginal; occasionally, however, the central region becomes opaque first.

(To be continued.)

Appointments.

MATRON.

Miss Dora Finch has been appointed Matron of University College Hospital. She was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she subsequently held the position of Sister in Luke Ward. For the last three years she has held the position of Matron at the New Hospital for Women, Euston Road. Miss Finch is a member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

Miss Joan Inglis has been appointed Matron of St. Leonard's Infirmary, Shoreditch. She was trained at the London Hospital, and is at present Matron of the Union Infirmary, Leeds.

Miss Almie Burland Todd has been appointed Matron of the West Norfolk and Lynn Hospital. She was trained for three years at the Infirmary, Birmingham, and afterwards was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. Her subsequent positions have been Home Sister at the Infirmary, Crumpsall, and Matron at the Children's Hospital, Linthorpe, Middlesborough. For the last few weeks she has been taking holiday duty as Matron at the Birmingham Midland and Eye Hospital. She is a Member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

Miss Helen Roberts has been appointed Matron of the Liverpool Hospital for Consumption. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and has held the position of Sister at the Liverpool Hospital for Cancer and Skin Diseases, and the Sanatorium, Kingswood, Delamere Forest.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Miss Elizabeth Eyles has been appointed Assistant Matron at St. Mary's Infirmary, Islington. She was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she subsequently acted as Assistant Housekeeper. She is a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

Lecturing for Nurses.

By MISS MARY BURR.

From time to time we hear that the supply of nurses is greater than the demand, except, of course, when there is an epidemic raging.

This being so, one wonders that more nurses do not take up lecturing on First Aid and Home Nursing for the various County Councils.

This branch of our profession has, I think, been much neglected, yet in its way, it is an extremely useful and pleasant, if not altogether a lucrative branch of nursing.

To those nurses whose health cannot stand the strain of night duty, or who may need for a time lighter work, yet do not wish to get quite out of touch with their profession, it seems to offer the very thing.

I do not wish to imply that a broken-down nurse will be able to stand lecturing, because it is not so, for in this, as in all other work, a certain amount of health is necessary, or she could never stand the strain of constant travelling in all weathers, and the irregular meals that the work entails.

Whoever undertakes to teach must first of all learn, and learn thoroughly, her subject, no matter what that subject may be; therefore it goes without saying that to teach even "Home" Nursing the teacher should be a trained nurse.

I cannot too emphatically condemn those societies who (for a good fee) undertake to fit ladies to teach many subjects, including "First Aid and Home Nursing," by a three months' course of lectures.

I grant these ladies are advised to spend a few months in an infirmary to learn the practical part of the work.

When one hears of the facility with which they get positions, one wonders, if they are capable of teaching after three months' instruction, why then should nurses spend three or four years training in hospital?

For surely to be able to teach necessarily includes the power of doing.

I know that some argue that one cannot do much harm by teaching the poor the very elements of nursing.

Perhaps not, if the instruction could be kept to the elementary part. But constituted as our County Councils are of men, who for the most part arrange all the work for their workers, this apparently simple subject of home nursing is made something more than elementary, and a very great deal is supposed and expected to be taught during these short courses of lectures. My experience has taught me that the word of a nurse carries far more weight among poor people than even that of the doctor. They argue that a nurse has much more experience in nursing, and therefore must know more about sick people.

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