

Appointments.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

Miss Jessie M. Craig has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Acland Home for Paying Patients, Oxford. She received her training at King's College Hospital, and has held the position of Night Superintendent at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, and at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, where she was afterwards appointed Ward Sister. She also served for over two years in South Africa in the recent war.

MATRON.

Miss L. Whittington has been appointed Matron of the West Ham new Infirmary at Leytonstone. She received her training at the Middlesex Hospital, and has held the positions of Charge Nurse and Assistant Matron at the Hackney Infirmary. Recently she has been Matron of the small-pox hospital at Tottenham. She holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society.

SISTER.

Miss Eva Jones has been appointed Sister at the Parkfield Nursing Home, Liverpool. She was trained at the Mill Road Infirmary, and subsequently at the Ladies' Charity Hospital, Liverpool, in which institution she held the position of Sister for two years. She has also done private nursing in connection with the Nightingale Home, Southport.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSES.

Miss Lucy Hill has been appointed Superintendent Nurse of the District Nursing Association, Pontypridd. She was trained at Crumpsall Infirmary, Manchester, and at the Workhouse Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne. She has had training in district nursing in Salford, and has also done district work in connection with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute at Darwen and Merthyr Vale.

Miss Ward, of the Infirmary, Hull, has been appointed Superintendent Nurse of the Union Infirmary, Belfast. The post is a responsible one, as the Belfast Workhouse, which is the largest in Ireland, contains 1,200 sick and infirm patients, and the nursing staff numbers 130.

CHARGE NURSES.

Miss Theresa Frances Jennings has been appointed Charge Nurse at the New Infirmary, Acton Lane, Willesden. She was trained at the Infirmary, Whitechapel, and has held the post of Charge Nurse at the Park Hospital, Hither Green.

Miss Jane E. Owen has been appointed Charge Nurse on night duty in the same institution. She received her training at the Whitechapel Infirmary, and has held the positions of Ward Sister at the Bethnal Green Infirmary and of Charge Nurse at the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, and of Charge Nurse under the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

Notes on Practical Nursing.

THE DIETING OF PATIENTS.

LECTURES TO PROBATIONERS.

By Miss HELEN TODD,

Matron, National Sanatorium, Bournemouth.

IX.—DIET IN SOME INFANTILE DISORDERS.

At our last lecture we considered the sterilisation of milk as a safeguard against disease-producing bacteria which may contaminate it. The question is sometimes raised as to whether milk so treated is as digestible and nourishing as fresh new milk. I fear we must reply in the negative, although the change is not sufficient to tax any ordinary digestion or to prove harmful to our sick. It has been shown that fresh milk contains a certain proportion of living cells which are capable of passing, without chemical change, from the stomach into the blood stream, but if the milk be cooked the life of these cells is destroyed and their albumens coagulated, so that, after heating, milk requires the action of the digestive juices before absorption can take place (Kerr).

Formaldehyde is one of the common adulterants used to preserve milk. The test which will show its presence is so exceedingly simple that it is well that you should be familiar with it. Put m xx . strong commercial sulphuric acid into a test-tube, add carefully ʒij . (about) of the suspected milk, previously diluted with the same amount of water; a violet colour will appear at the junction of the acid and milk if there be any formaldehyde present.

Young children and infants brought up by hand are liable to contract various serious disorders if the precautions are not rigidly observed which were described in our last two lectures, concerning the sterilisation and storage of milk, and the cleanliness of all utensils with which it comes in contact.

Two forms of diarrhoea in particular may occur, both of which are speedily fatal if their cause be not recognised—viz., the poisoning of the milk, due to the action of certain bacteria which have found a way into it, either from the air or a dirty vessel.

Of course, you clearly understand that under no circumstances is it your duty to prescribe drugs, or otherwise take upon yourselves the treatment of a sick child; that you must always leave to the doctor; but the value of your training lies in this, that you have learnt to recognise certain symptoms as dangerous, you are frequently the only person at hand to persuade the mother to send for proper advice, and your knowledge should be at least sufficient to prevent the employment of unknown "soothing syrups" and "drops," which may easily help to produce a fatal termination to the illness,

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