Appointments.

Assistant Matrons.

Miss Jeanie S. Abernethy has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Ilkley Hospital and Convalescent Home. She was trained at University College Hospital, London, and had three years' experince of fever work at the Western Fever Hospital, Fulham, S.W. She has also done private nursing in connection with the Leeds Trained Nurses' Institution.

Miss Mary Gertrude Hague has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Paddington Infirmary. She was trained at the London Hospital, and has worked at Woolwich as a district nurse in connection with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, and has had experience of infectious nursing at the South-Western Fever Hospital.

Sister.

Miss E. E. Longworth has been appointed Sister at the Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, and the Royal Infirmary, Bristol, and holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society.

THE MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

The following appointments have been made at the Herbert Hospital, Woolwich. The appointments of the Staff Nurses are of special interest, as they are the first of this rank in the Military Nursing Service. We have received several letters asserting that the position of Staff Nurse in this Service would not attract nurses with good certificates. We have refrained from comment, preferring to leave the new Service to work out its own salvation. The list of training-schools from which the nurses have been recruited seems to indicate that the fear is misplaced.

Matron—	Trained at—
Miss B. I. Jones	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Sisters—	
1. Miss W. Potter	Army Nursing Service.
2. Miss G. A. Magill	Army Nursing Service.
3. Miss D. V. Briscoe	Army Nursing Service.
4. Miss G. E. Larner	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
5. Miss S. Lamming	Queen's Hospital, Birmingham.
6. Miss E. C. Cheetham	Guy's Hospital.
7. Miss L. M. Lyall	Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland Road.
Staff Nurses—	
1. Miss C. C. R. Moor	London Homœopathic Hospital
2. Miss A. A. Wilson	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
3. Miss E. J. M. Keene	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
4. Miss E. M. Pettle	Croydon Infirmary.
5. Miss E. C. Humphreys	London Hospital, E.
6. Miss M. Kendall	Addenbrooke's Hospital.
7. Miss S. R. Hughes-Hallett	Addenbrooke's Hospital.
8. Miss A. M. Fitzgerald	London Hospital, E.
9. Miss F. E. C. Watson	General Hospital, Nottingham.
10. Miss E. M. Bickerdike	The Infirmary, Blackburn.
11. Miss M. Pedler	University College Hospital.
12. Miss L. A. Rideout	Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Poisons.

THEIR SOURCE, USE, AND ANTIDOTES.

By Miss E. L. B. Forster,
Analyst to The Morgan Crucible Co.

NO. I.

The law is very strict with regard to the sale of poisons, under the Pharmacy Act. There is a list of poisons which may only be sold under certain conditions. This list is divided into two parts. No. 1 contains twelve which must not be sold unless the purchaser is known to, or introduced to, the seller. Special entries must be made in the poison book, and the poison sold must be labelled in a specified manner. When arsenic is sold extra regulations are enforced.

Part No. 2 contains fourteen poisons. The rules for the sale of these are not so strict. The article must be labelled "Poison," with its name, and that of the seller.

Most of the poisonous drugs are prescribed for internal use, but only in minute doses, as $\frac{1}{60}$ or $\frac{1}{30}$ of a grain.

For convenience we shall sub-divide our poisons into inorganic and organic.

Inorganic. Table I.

Arsenic.

Officially, in the British Pharmacopœia, called acidum arseniosum and arsenious anhydride; synonyms: arsenic, white arsenic, arsenious oxide. Formula, As_4O_6.

The element arsenic, which lies on the borderland between a metal and non-metal—in fact, a metalloid—is of little general use. The oxide As_4O_6 is universally spoken of as arsenic. So we may be always quite sure when we hear the term that it is meant to express the deadly poisonous substance, *i.e.*, arsenious oxide.

Arsenic may be obtained from any ores containing it. The chief commercial method is to roast arsenical pyrites; the iron remains behind as oxide and sulphate; the arsenic passes over. It is then sublimed to purify it.

The men employed in its preparation have to be well protected against the poison, which is very light and dusty, by wearing leather, and keeping damp cloths over their mouths and noses.

There are various forms of arsenic—amorphous, a colourless, transparent substance (on exposure it becomes opaque, and is transformed into the regular octahedral variety), and the prismatic, formed when arsenic is crystallised in a solution of potassium hydroxide.

Arsenic is largely used in medicine. It is also used in the arts—in colouring wall-papers, in calico-printing, in glass-making, and for many other purposes.

In medicine, pure arsenic is sometimes prescribed, the dose being $\frac{1}{100}$ to $\frac{1}{15}$ of a grain. It can be

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