

by the London School of Tropical Medicine to investigate the spread of sleeping sickness in Uganda. At that time it was believed that there was a distinct connection between the spread of sleeping sickness and the presence of a filaria worm in the blood. The Commission, however, came to the conclusion that there was no such connection, and Dr. Castellani reported the presence of a streptococcus in the blood of persons suffering from sleeping sickness. On April 5th, 1903, Dr. Castellani sent a paper to the Royal Society, which was communicated to the Society on May 14th, stating that he had found in cerebro-spinal fluid taken by lumbar puncture an actively-moving trypanosoma. Further investigation seems to increase the significance of this discovery, and Colonel Bruce, who is continuing Dr. Castellani's investigation, in a telegram dated Uganda, May 4th, states that in thirty-eight cases of sleeping sickness he had found trypanosoma in every case in fluid obtained by lumbar puncture, and that he had found trypanosoma in the blood of twelve out of thirteen cases of sleeping sickness. It may, of course, be a coincidence, and we must await further investigation; but the whole subject of trypanosoma is only a few months old, and it shows how quickly scientific knowledge proceeds at the present day, for not only have we become aware that yet another parasite has been discovered in man, but it is now apparent that what was thought to be a rare disease, namely, trypanosomiasis, is widely spread and associated with such various ailments as trypanosoma fever, and sleeping sickness.

#### HEART INDEPENDENT OF CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM.

An experiment, as striking as it was gruesome, has been performed by Professor Elias P. Lyon, of the Department of Physiology at the University of Chicago. It was undertaken, says the *Telegraph's* correspondent, to demonstrate that the heart is independent of the central nervous system, and can be made to pump blood by means of artificial circulation, even when it is removed from the body. Mr. Lyon has been able not merely to make pieces of hearts pulsate in salt solutions and air, as was done by Professor Loed and Professor Lingle, but, by an arrangement of suitable apparatus, has caused the heart of a dog to pump blood through itself, a pair of lungs, and a loop of tubing four feet high.

## Appointments.

### MATRONS.

Miss Blanche A. Bradbury has been appointed Matron of the Porth Cottage Hospital, Porth, Glamorgan. She was trained at the General Infirmary, Burton-on-Trent, and has held the position of Charge-Nurse at the Cottage Hospital, Clevedon, and of nurse at the Eston Hospital, Middlesbrough, Yorks.

Miss Margaret Derrick has been appointed Matron of the Almondsbury Memorial Institute and Hospital, Bristol. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and has held the position of Sister at the New Hospital for Women, Euston Road. She is a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

Miss Edith Owen has been appointed Nurse-Matron of the Birkdale Hospital for Infectious Diseases. She was trained at the Carmarthenshire and Anglesey Infirmary, Bangor, and has held appointments at St. Helen's Hospital and at the Royal Infirmary, Lancaster.

Miss K. E. Walker has been appointed House Matron at the Metropolitan Asylums Board School, Banstead Road, Sutton. She was trained at St. Saviour's Infirmary, East Dulwich, and has held the positions of Staff Nurse at the London Temperance Hospital and of Sister at St. Mary's Infirmary, Islington.

### SISTERS.

Miss Charlotte P. Gash has been appointed Sister at the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire General Hospital. She was trained at the Warneford Hospital, Leamington, and has worked in connection with Princess Christian's Home at Windsor, and as Sister at the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot. She has had experience of nursing in South Africa.

Miss Elsie Humphreys has been appointed Ward Sister at the Woolwich Infirmary, Plumstead. She was trained for three years at the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, where she afterwards held the position of Staff Nurse. For five years she worked as District Midwife at Richmond. She holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society.

## A Great Need.

A great need in the private nursing world at the present day is of disinfecting centres where nurses who have been engaged in infectious work can isolate themselves during the quarantine period. We learn, therefore, with pleasure, that two qualified nurses are contemplating the establishment of a home where private nurses, other than those who have been nursing scarlet fever and small-pox, can disinfect. As the matter is one which concerns the safety of the public, they should have the support of sanitary authorities in this venture.

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