

pital shall have nine nurses and one female servant. The witness soon set that aside, and generally put twenty-five into each general hospital; when a hospital got as large as No. 1 it had over forty nurses. They were invaluable in the hospitals; he took them from the first moment he went to South Africa, though he had no power by regulation. He got the authority afterwards.

In regard to orderlies, there were nothing like enough. There were only just enough to carry on the peace establishment. There was a reserve but it was not enough, and a new system is wanted.

The regulations as to bearer companies and field hospitals should be altered root and branch. They should be one unit.

The New South Wales contingent, who brought half a field hospital, had one great pull over everyone else, as they had their own transport. Their horses were never taken from them; it was a thing to be imitated. Until our own hospitals had their own transport, with regular, steady, trained horses, their transport arrangements would never be efficient. He would like to have the transport allotted to the medical units and left there during the war. He did not want it handed over so that a medical officer would be the commanding officer of the drivers; he had been misunderstood on this question. What he wanted was by some means to have the medical transport always there, so that they should not have trained horses one day, and bad horses or vicious mules another day. He would like to have trained, steady animals always at the command of the hospitals, in the same way that the regimental transport was formerly attached to the regiments.

In reply to a question from the Chairman, Sir William Wilson said he was aware that under the new Order in Council since 1901 the Director-General of the Army Medical Department had been given a better position. The only conclusion to be arrived at was that this was owing to the discovery that everything was not as it ought to have been. He did not think that conclusion was based on reports of his own from the front. It was true he struck out a new line in various ways the moment he got there.

"I cannot imagine," said the Chairman, "that a large change, such as this, would be made at the War Office unless the authorities had become satisfied that the previous system had been wanting, as proved by the war. . . . It seems improbable that a great change like this could be made in the organisation of the War Office unless there had been some failure."

Lady Roberts, accompanied by Lady Aileen Roberts and Miss Sidney Browne, R.R.C., recently privately visited the Princess Louise Hospital, Alton, for the purpose of presenting badges to the nursing staff of the hospital.

The Progress of State Registration.

MEETING OF THE NEW YORK BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS.

The Regents' Office at Albany has issued the following announcement:—

"A meeting of the State Board of Examiners of Registered Nurses, composed of Mr. L. Bissell Sanford, of New York; Miss Annie Damer, of Buffalo; Miss Dorothy N. MacDonald, of Brooklyn; Miss Sophia F. Palmer, of Rochester; and Miss Jane Elizabeth Hitchcock, of New York, was held in the Regents' Office, Albany, Tuesday afternoon, September 15th.

"All members of the Board were present, also Secretary James Russell Parsons, jun., of the Regents' Office.

"The Board organised by electing Miss Palmer as president and Miss Hitchcock as secretary. Miss Palmer is editor of the *American Journal of Nursing*. Miss Hitchcock has charge of the nursing staff in the Nurses' Settlement, New York City.

"The Board first considered and adopted a form of application for certificate as registered nurse.

"Section 208 of the law waives the examination, on recommendation of the State Board of Examiners, of graduates, residents of the State of New York, at least twenty-one years of age and of good moral character, with diplomas from approved training-schools for nurses connected with a hospital or sanitarium giving a course of at least two years; and also of those who were in training at the time the Act was passed who shall graduate hereafter; and also of those with three years' experience in a general hospital in the practice of nursing prior to the passage of the Act who shall apply in writing for such certificate within three years after the passage of the Act; and, finally, any nurse of good moral character who has been engaged in the actual practice of nursing for not less than three years prior to the passage of the Act who shall satisfactorily pass an examination in practical nursing within three years thereafter.

"The test in practical nursing will include both a practical demonstration and a written test involving the care of febrile cases, of patients before and after operation, of the mother and new-born babe in normal and abnormal obstetrical cases, of treatment of emergencies, and a knowledge of drugs with regard to toxicological symptoms and treatment after poisonous doses. Male nurses will be examined on genito-urinary work as a substitute for obstetrical cases.

"The practical demonstration will be conducted by a member of the Board of Examiners, who must recommend the applicant for admission to the written test. Both practical demonstration and written test will be held on the dates and at the

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