

Appointments.

MATRONS.

Miss R. B. Puxley has been appointed Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, in place of Miss James, resigned. Miss Puxley was trained at the same institution, and, after being Staff Nurse, held the position of Sister for some years. She was subsequently appointed Assistant Matron eight years ago. In recognition of her excellent qualifications, and as a mark of appreciation of her faithful services, she has been unanimously appointed Matron by the Board of Management.

Miss Jessie Creighton has been appointed Matron of the Winsley Sanatorium. She is, at present, on the Staff of the Royal Infirmary, Bristol.

Miss A. Duckworth has been appointed Matron of the Convalescent Hospital, Southport. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Preston, and has held the position of Staff Nurse at Monkwearmouth and Leith Hospitals, Matron of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Darwen, and Nurse in Charge of the male wards of the hospital to which she is now appointed Matron.

SISTERS.

Miss A. McLear has been appointed Sister at the Royal Infirmary, Hull. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and has held the position of Sister at the General Hospital, Wolverhampton, and at the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield.

Miss Ada Duckworth has been appointed Theatre and Casualty Sister at the North Lonsdale Hospital, Barrow. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Liverpool.

Miss Florence Poelin has been appointed Sister of male wards at the North Lonsdale Hospital, Barrow. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London.

Miss Mary Savage has been appointed Sister at St. Leonard's Infirmary, Shoreditch. She was trained at the General Infirmary Bolton, and has held the position of Charge Nurse at the Park Hospital, Hither Green, and of Sister at the General Infirmary, Burton-on-Trent.

Miss Gertrude M. Evans has been appointed Ward Sister at the Croydon Infirmary, in succession to Miss M. E. Mustoe.

NIGHT SUPERINTENDENTS.

Miss Emily M. Northover has been appointed Night Superintendent at the Croydon Union Infirmary. She at present holds the position of Ward Sister at the Bethnal Green Infirmary, Cambridge Heath, N.E.

Miss M. E. J. Wood has resigned her appointment as Night Superintendent at the Croydon Union Infirmary to take up a post at the Shirley Schools under the St. Olave's Union.

Anæmia.

By MISS M. LOANE,

Superintendent of District Nurses, Portsmouth.

It is impossible for any district nurse to avoid observing the prevalence of anæmia among poor women under thirty years of age. Whether this is a new thing, she herself is too new to judge, but, considering the very modern date of some of the contributing factors, she inclines to think that it is.

The chief causes of the frequency with which it is found appear to her to be:—

1. Wages that are a *little more than enough* to support a man, his wife, and children under fourteen years of age.

2. The later average age at which men get married.

3. The increasing number of unmarried men between twenty-two and thirty-two living with their parents.

4. The ease with which "temporary situations" can be obtained in domestic service.

Perhaps the bearing of these facts may not be immediately obvious. To take the first—higher wages—one might well imagine that it was an unmixed gain, and so it would be if the balance were better applied. As soon as an ordinary labourer's eldest daughter reaches the age of fourteen, paying work of some kind is at once found for her, but if a girl is a degree higher in the social scale, and the district nurse (probably knowing of several good and light places) suggests that she should go into service, the answer usually is, "She is too young. Perhaps later on we'll put her to the dressmaking."

The nurse feels extremely doubtful whether sufficient money will ever be forthcoming to do this effectively, and a year later she repeats the suggestion.

"I find her so useful at home," says the mother. "Tom and Jim both living with us it makes a lot o' work."

"I hope they will soon find nice young women, and make homes for themselves."

"Not for many a long day yet, I hope," says the mother eagerly. "They're very comfortable as they are."

"Too comfortable," says the nurse to herself, and reflects what a difference it would make to the world if the only self-indulgent bachelors were those much-talked-of scores in West-end clubs.

At sixteen, lack of nourishing food and a proportionately decreasing share of bedroom accommodation have left their marks on the girl, and when the mother says, "She isn't strong enough for service; I must keep her at home until she gets better again," the nurse inwardly acknowledges that only a very indulgent and well-to-do mistress would care to employ such a narrow-chested, thin-armed,

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