

Corresponding observations have been made with salicylic acid, benzoic acid, and sulphurous acid, but the results are not yet ready for publication, and investigations into the effects of formaldehyde and various colouring matters on health and digestion are to be made.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TROPICAL MEDICAL PROBLEMS.

Major Ronald Ross, whose work in connection with tropical research is so well known, emphasises the importance of the subject to an Empire, much of which lies in the tropics. At present, he says, epidemics obliterate whole native communities and work devastation amongst white men, thus checking civilisation and paralysing trade. It is only by understanding the nature of diseases that it is possible to grapple with them effectively. The dawn of knowledge as to tropical diseases began in 1880, and, at the present time, by means of a series of striking and dramatic experiments, the mosquito is demonstrated to be the source of infection in both malaria and yellow fever. In the former case the microbe has been found, in the latter it has yet to be discovered. The agency of the mosquito as the bearer of yellow fever infection has, however, been established beyond dispute.

Dr. Finlay, a physician in Havana, for long interested in the question, handed to the American Government a number of the insects. A Commission was appointed, which proceeded to divide some Spaniards, who offered themselves for the purpose, into two lots. One lot was subjected to every conceivable mode of infection which up to that time had been considered most probable. They even slept in the night clothes of patients who had died from the disease. The other lot was subjected to the mosquito bite. In the first case, all the subjects of the experiment remained in perfect health. In the latter, six out of seven were attacked by the disease. Further experiments proved with absolute certainty that the mosquito, and the mosquito only, is the source of infection.

Major Ross therefore claims for science the honour of a partial if not a complete solution of a great problem, for malaria and yellow fever slay annually hundreds of thousands of victims. It may, however, he fears, be years, or even centuries, before the full benefit of these discoveries is gained, for neither the public, nor even scientific men, appear to estimate them at their full value.

Appointments.

SUPERINTENDENT OF NIGHT NURSES.

Miss M. B. Vickers has been appointed Superintendent of Night Nurses at the City Hospital, Walker Gate, Newcastle-on-Tyne. She was trained for three years at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, where she subsequently held the position of Sister. For the last three years she has held the position of Sister at the Children's Hospital, Bradford.

SISTER.

Miss Louise Kingham has been appointed Sister at the Fulham Infirmary, St. Dunstan's Road, Hammersmith. She was trained at the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital and at the Lewisham Infirmary, and has held the positions of Staff Nurse at the General Hospital, Birmingham, Charge Nurse at the South-Eastern Fever Hospital and the Royal Eye Hospital, Southwark, Sister at the Enfield Isolation Hospital and at the Nursing Sisters' Institution, Devonshire Square.

CHARGE NURSE.

Miss Lizzie Muir has been appointed Charge Nurse at Rakes Moor Hospital, Barrow-in-Furness. She was trained at the City Hospital, Edinburgh, and the County Hospital, Lincoln, and has held the position of Charge Nurse in the City Poorhouse Hospitals, Edinburgh, and of Nurse Matron at the Port of London Sanitary Hospital. She has also had experience in private nursing.

Miss M. Wheateroft has been appointed Nurse at the Strangers' Hospital, Rio Janeiro. She holds the three years' certificate of the Stockport Union Infirmary. At the conclusion of her training she worked for six months under the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for the Shoreditch and Bethnal Green District Nursing Association, and was then appointed Nurse in connection with the affiliated branch of the Jubilee Institute at Bacup, which post she resigns to take up her present appointment. She holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*To be Staff Nurses:* Miss E. M. Goard, Miss E. J. Minns.

RESIGNATIONS.—The following ladies have resigned their appointments:—*Sisters:* Miss E. Cox, Miss E. M. Monck-Mason, Miss D. F. Palmer.

CHANGE OF STATION.—*Sister:* Miss M. L. Harris, Woolwich to Chatham. *Staff Nurses:* Miss P. Steele, Royal Military College, Sandhurst, to Chatham.

Staff Nurse Miss A. M. Pagan is confirmed in her appointment, her period of provisional service having expired.

The undermentioned ladies to be Staff Nurses (provisionally): Miss Ethel St. Quintin, Miss Louisa Strickland.

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