

There was nothing characteristic about the fever, no definite course being followed. In the malignant cases the temperature was sometimes sub-normal. Malignant cases occurred, as a rule, at the onset of the epidemic, milder ones towards its close.

The writer of the article points out as a strange coincidence the simultaneous appearance of spotted fever in New York, Europe, and Northern Nigeria. He suggests that the sun spot visible at that time may have been a predisposing factor in its production.

#### THE TREATMENT OF DIABETES MELLITUS.

Dr. Naunyn, *Deutsche Medizinische Wochenschrift*, says the first step in the treatment of a diabetic patient is to determine his tolerance for carbohydrates. This is done by putting him on a diet which approaches the normal, but of which the albumin and fat values are known approximately, and the carbohydrates accurately. He is kept on this for a couple of days, and from the amount of sugar excreted in comparison with that taken in the food, the tolerance is determined. In this way the patient's disease may be classified as being slight, moderate, or severe. In the latter case he should receive institutional treatment, but if his diabetes is only slight or moderate in gravity, he may be cared for at home. The next step is to cut down his carbohydrates to such a degree that all sugar disappears from the urine. He is kept down to this for at least fourteen days, and then little by little his dietary is increased until he has reached the maximum that can be allowed without giving rise to glycosuria. In managing this, it is often of great advantage, once a week or oftener, to interpolate a day of complete fasting, in which only fluids are taken. In working up to the maximum diet the best way is to make each advance by allowing more milk, and if this is well borne, substituting for it a corresponding amount of some other carbohydrate. Drugs should be used only for special indications, but such accessories as baths, massage, and gymnastics may be found useful, taking care not to permit over-fatigue. It is essential to have the patient keep constant watch of the amounts of all the articles of food he is consuming, and that he shall always err on the side of safety. Gaps in the dietary are to be filled with fat and not with meat or other albumins. Even with the strictest attention to diet, acidosis may result, and to guard against this, at every sugar test the Gerhardt reaction should also be carried out.

## Appointments.

### MATRONS.

Miss Elsie Satchwell has been appointed Matron of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Miss Satchwell received her training in general nursing at the London Hospital, and has held important posts in several institutions, including the Matronship of a private hospital. In April, 1904, she was appointed to the Matronship of the male side at the Stirling District Asylum, Larbert, N.B., and a few months later was promoted to be sole Matron of the whole Asylum, which post she was still occupying when she was appointed to the Matronship at Chelsea. Miss Satchwell is a member of the Matrons' Council.

Miss Jean McGrigor has been appointed Matron of the Stirling District Asylum, N.B. Miss McGrigor was trained in general nursing at the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, and received her mental training at Larbert Asylum, where she has been on the staff for nearly two years as Assistant Matron.

### CHARGE NURSE.

Miss N. F. Brach has been appointed Charge Nurse at the Walsall Union Infirmary. She was trained at the Nottingham Infirmary, and has held appointments at the City of Glasgow Fever Hospital for three years, and at the Bagthorpe Infirmary, Nottingham, for a similar period.

### QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

POSTINGS AND TRANSFERS AT HOME.—*Staff Nurses*: Miss G. A. Howe, to Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot; Miss C. W. Jones, to Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, S.W.

POSTINGS AND TRANSFERS ABROAD.—*Staff Nurses*: Miss G. M. Smith, to Egypt from Woolwich; Miss E. M. Perkins, to Egypt from Netley; Miss A. FitzGerald (Sister), held in readiness for abroad.

## Presentation to Miss Vernet.

Before Miss E. C. Vernet left the National Hospital recently to take up her new duties at the Middlesex Hospital, she was the recipient of several gifts from those with whom she had worked, and who wished Miss Vernet to be in possession of some tokens of their sincere respect and regard.

The presents were as follows:—

From the nursing staff, past and present, a silver tea service.

From the chaplain, architect, secretary's staff, resident medical officers, dispensers, &c., a silver kettle and tray.

From the domestic staff, male and female, a revolving book stand, silver tea knives, and hymn book.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)