

## Practical Points.

**Precautions about Handling Drugs.** Remember, always, says the *National Hospital Record*, that there is an element of danger in every drug. Remember, never to give a drug that is not labelled.

Remember, never to give a drug in the dark.  
Remember, never to omit reading the label very carefully.

Remember, to measure the dose accurately.  
Remember, it is rarely, or never, safe to use a pill or capsule which has escaped from its container in a hospital medicine cupboard.

Remember, that it is better never to give a dose of medicine while you have a shadow of doubt about it. If you omit it you may be able to overcome the omission. If you give a wrong dose you may never have an opportunity to retrieve your blunder. A blunder in making a bed, a blunder in writing a letter, thousands of blunders you can correct, but a blunder about giving medicine is one that you may never have a chance to correct.

**How Diphtheria is Spread.**

It is popularly believed that, in common with nuts and apples, eggs are articles of diet which may be eaten with safety even when surrounding conditions are not all that could be desired. The better informed know that much can be absorbed through the shell of an egg, but it will come as a surprise to most people that in the innocent-looking egg which appears on the breakfast table the germs of diphtheria may lurk.

Dr. W. L. Sambon, of the London School of Tropical Medicine, brings this out in a contribution to the *Lancet*. For some time the enormous mortality amongst wood-pigeons has been a matter for investigation by medical men. Dr. Sambon now shows that domestic pigeons and fowls also suffer from it. Cows and horses are infected by the latter, and then the teamster and the milkman, through whose agency the germs are sent to town with the milk.

But infection is not only indirect; it may be directly communicable from birds to man. Dr. Sambon has found the characteristic diphtheritic membrane in the oviduct of fowls, and not only so, but he has found fragments of this infectious matter in the egg itself on his own breakfast-table.

Protection is doubtless afforded by the boiling to which the egg is subjected before it appears on the breakfast table, but this does not apply to eggs which are beaten up or partaken of raw. As eggs in this state are frequently given to invalids beaten up with milk, in albumen water, or to relieve vomiting in some illnesses by coating the irritable mucous membrane of the stomach, it behoves nurses to ensure, so far as possible, that the source from which such eggs are procured is above suspicion, as they are not in a position to be able to discover infectious matter in the eggs when supplied.

## Appointments.

### MATRONS.

**Cottage Hospital, Lyme Regis.**—Miss Violet V. Law has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Victoria Hospital, Keighley, and has worked as a district nurse and as a midwife in Cambridge.

**Pembrokeshire Infirmary, Haverfordwest.**—Miss Alice K. Gough has been appointed Nurse-Matron. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Bristol, and has held the position of Matron of the Fal-mouth Hospital and Dispensary, Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Dunster, and of Ward Sister at the Darlington Hospital.

### SISTERS.

**St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, London.**—Miss R. A. Pugh has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Taunton and Somerset Hospital, and has held the position of Sister at the Cancer Hospital, Fulham Road, and at the Cottage Hospital, Romford.

**Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.**—Miss Isabel Eva Hawes has been appointed Sister in the Benyon Ward. She was trained in the same hospital, and has also had two months further experience at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

**Broseley Hospital, Salop.**—Miss Ethel Johns has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Truro.

### NIGHT SISTER.

**Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, Eastbourne.**—Miss M. Edmonston has been appointed Night Sister. She was trained at the Oldham Infirmary, and has held the position of Sister at Ingham Infirmary, South Shields, Night Sister at Dorset County Hospital, and Ward Sister at Darlington Hospital.

### SUPERINTENDENT.

**Bath District Nursing Institute.**—Miss B. N. Exton has been appointed Superintendent. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and has held the position of Assistant Superintendent at the Q.V.J.I. Central Home, Bloomsbury, and of Superintendent of the Q.V.J.I. Home, Chatham.

### SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

**Union Workhouse, Haslemere.**—Miss C. M. Sparks has been appointed Superintendent Nurse. She received her training at the General Hospital, Grantham, and has held the position of Superintendent Nurse at the Union Infirmary, Grantham, and of Charge Nurse at the Dartford Union Infirmary.

**Nantwich Union.**—Miss Minna Crossley has been appointed Superintendent Nurse. She was trained at Chorlton Union Infirmary, and has held the position of Charge Nurse at Deanhouse Hospital, Huddersfield, and of senior nurse and midwife at the Infirmary, Keighley.

### NURSE-IN-CHARGE.

**Training Ship "Exmouth" Infirmary, Grays, Essex.**—Miss Jeannie Marshall has been appointed Head Nurse-in-Charge. She was trained at the Lambeth Infirmary, where she has held the position of Sister. She has also been Staff Nurse at the Home Hospital, Leicester; Charge Nurse at the West Ham Infirmary, where she temporarily acted as Night Sister; and has temporarily held

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