

THE NURSING SERVICE.

As regards the nursing profession and its response to the call upon it to provide nurses for these hospitals, it is, as yet, too soon to say to what extent Volunteers will come forward. But the Director-General has reason to think that they will prove no less patriotic than the members of the medical profession. He has been in consultation with many of the Matrons of the chief civil hospitals throughout the country, and has been encouraged by them to proceed with his proposals. Matters have now been sufficiently far advanced to proceed to the formation of an Advisory Council, upon which (as we have reported) the nursing profession is fully represented by Matrons who belong to London Hospitals, and are, therefore, in a position to attend frequent meetings. This Council has been charged with the framing of rules and advising as to the best method of procedure to be adopted in forming a Territorial Force Nursing Service in accordance with the following requirements:—

A matron will be required to join the administrative staff of each general hospital, and control an establishment of 30 sisters and 88 nurses. Every two years she will be given an opportunity of studying for one week the administrative duties of matrons in large military hospitals. For each general hospital 91 sisters and nurses will be required in time of war. They will be enrolled by local committees at each of the 23 general hospital centres, in the formation of which County Associations are concerned. Lastly, as regards the part to be taken by voluntary aid societies in the formation of the general hospitals, the British Red Cross Society has now organised itself on a plan corresponding somewhat to that of County Associations, in so far that County Committees exist whereby county effort is focussed. In 1907 the Secretary of State for War held a conference with the Executive Committee of the Society; and as a result of that conference the Army Council fully considered and gave their assent to proposals of which Surgeon-General Keogh gives a brief summary in his report.

A CALL TO DUTY.

We hope the trained nurses of the United Kingdom will give instant and extensive support to the new Volunteer Nursing Scheme in connection with the Territorial Force, which is now being organised. Nurses are an enthusiastically patriotic class, and will enjoy their part in serving their country by caring in sickness for its brave defenders. Moreover, Mr. Haldane, the Minister for War, has consistently evinced warm appreciation of the work of trained nurses, and in consequence they will have all the greater pleasure in responding to his call to duty.

We shall publish the rules as soon as they are available.

WEDDING BELLS.

Miss Jessie Irvine, recently a member of the Registered Nurses' Society, London, was married to Mr. Alexander Young, on the 23rd ult., at St. Ninan's Cathedral, Perth, N.B. The honeymoon is to be spent at Stranraer, and the happy pair will make their home in Belfast.

Practical Points.

Modes of Preventing Tuberculosis in the Schools.

In considering the modes of preventing tuberculosis in the schools, Dr. H. Wirt Steele, U.S.A., says the four fundamental things are:—

1. The accurate classification of all pupils on a basis of physical well being, which can only be obtained by adequate medical inspection, and too, there should be a sufficient force of school nurses to follow up all cases of communicable diseases and physical shortcomings in the homes of the children. Children suspected of having tuberculosis should be removed from too close proximity to other pupils and teachers, and those having pulmonary tuberculosis should be removed from school.

2. Physical and esthetic surroundings of the child. One of the most important items in this relation is that the schools be not over-crowded. The buildings should conform to the best plans for supplying air and light, and the teachers be impressed with the importance of proper ventilation. An important adjunct to the modern school building is the bath. The school rooms should contain good pictures, and such other decorations as will tend to produce a cheerful, happy atmosphere.

3. Organised play. Playtime is necessary to the child's development, and there should be adequate playground facilities and trained teachers to organise and direct this part of school work.

4. Special instruction in hygiene. All teachers, from the primary grades through the high school and college, including special teachers, should have a normal training in the subject of hygiene, such training to include both personal and public hygiene and the care of the body of the individual in relation to cleanliness and proper recreation.

Epistaxis Position.

In persistent epistaxis the position of the patient is often important. He should be put to bed, in semi-recumbent position, with head high and back. If the hands are placed over the head, in this position, hæmorrhage is often much more easily controlled.

Solution of Formaldehyde for the Destruction of Flies and Mosquitoes.

In the *Archives de Medicine et de Pharmacie Militaires* for April, 1908, M. Delamare, chief of the military wards of the Hospital of Saint Denis, describes a method of destroying flies and mosquitoes in apartments by the use of a 10 per cent. solution of commercial formaldehyde. Saucers containing the solution are placed on the window sills and on tables in proximity to the places infested by the flies. The solution is said to be very effective, flies and mosquitoes being arrested and killed in their flight as they pass over the vessels containing it. Saucerfuls of the solution, placed at the heads of the beds in the hospital wards, protect the patients from attacks. The author had the curiosity to count the number of insects killed, and

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)