

Practical Points.

Oxygen a Cure for Whooping Cough. The writer on Health and Hospitals in the *Daily Telegraph* says:—Inhalations of oxygen are now being used on the Continent as a cure for whooping cough, and this new treatment for that common ailment of childhood is said to have proved very successful. It is reported that such inhalations not only relieve complications, but considerably allay the severity of the attacks. In this connection it is interesting to note that quite recently ozone (the activity of which depends on its power of evolving oxygen in a very active state) has been successfully used in the treatment of whooping cough at one of the large hospitals in Paris.

Sour Milk a Preservative. Most housewives do not know that sour milk is a preservative. Even oysters will keep in it for some time. A piece of beefsteak will be found to be perfectly fresh after an immersion of four or five months. Professor Elie Metchnikoff, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, explains that the sugar in the milk encourages the growth of certain germs which form lactic acid. This acid destroys the germs of putrefaction. For this reason, sour milk and buttermilk are often beneficial in alimentary disorders which are accompanied by bacterial infection. Sweet milk will not serve, because the sugar is promptly assimilated and the friendly germs are without sustenance. On the other hand, the casein of the milk remains, and in it the bacilli of decay multiply. It is they which cause the class of symptoms known as biliousness.

"Sauermilch" prepared with organisms recommended by Professor Metchnikoff may be obtained from Welford and Sons' Milk Laboratories, Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, W. It is known as "Metchnikoff Milk."

To Fight the Flea. Dr. G. Millian, physician to the Paris hospitals, urges war in plague threatened countries not on the rat alone, but on the flea. This parasite, he writes to the *Medical Press*, transfers his attentions from one person to the other with disconcerting agility. It leaves the dead body of a diseased person, and, for the first two or three days after its own infection, it can transmit the virus to another victim. There are human fleas, cat and dog fleas, and rat fleas, each preferring the blood of its natural host; but, in the absence of its favourite food supply, it will draw it from any other living animal. Cats and rats are, in that way, made a vehicle for the spread of disease through a house. Heat of 90 degrees prevents the propagation of the flea. Its eggs are deposited in the interstices of the floor or carpet, and as much moisture is inimical to its development, a well watered and well swept floor may be a general remedy. Extreme dryness is also hostile to the insects' increase.

Appointments.

MATRONS.

Nursing Staff, Basutoland Government.—Miss Jane C. Child has been appointed a matron under the Basutoland Government. She was trained at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, and has had a varied nursing experience, having held the following appointments:—Sister for four years at the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton; Matron of the Lewes Hospital; Private Nurse as a member of the Registered Nurses Society from 1895 to 1889, during which time she was selected for active service in Greece during the Græco-Turkish War, and worked for some time in the Ecole Militaire at Athens. In 1899 Miss Child went to South Africa and worked as Sister in the Kimberley Hospital, and in 1901 was appointed Matron of the Memorial Hospital, Bulawayo. In 1903 she was appointed Matron of the New Somerset Hospital, Cape Town, a position which she resigned in 1907. After a holiday in England Miss Child returned to South Africa, and for the last six months has been doing Matron's duties at the Kimberley Hospital during the furlough of the Matron, Miss Gibson. She is shortly to take up work at a new hospital at Mohalu Höck, Basutoland. Miss Child holds the diploma and medal of the Greek Red Cross, the South African War Medal, the Mayor's medal, Siege of Kimberley, and the Order (Hon. Serving Sister) of St. John of Jerusalem.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSE, AND SISTERS.

Bethnal Green Infirmary.—Miss Dora E. Trinder has been appointed Superintendent Nurse, and the following ladies, all of whom are well qualified, have been appointed Sisters:—Miss Ethel T. Buller, Miss Annie E. Cumstock, Miss Lilian M. Edmonds, Miss Gertrude E. Hart, Miss Charlotte A. Palmer.

Miller General Hospital, Greenwich.—Miss Ella Smith, trained at the London Hospital, Whitechapel, E., has been appointed Sister.

General Infirmary, Peterborough.—Miss Dora Clarke has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, and has since been Charge Nurse at the Cottage Hospital, Wellingborough, and Sister at the Whitehaven Infirmary.

Government Hospital, Kalgoorlie, Australia.—Miss Julia Murray, trained at the London Hospital (late Nurse "Hanbury") has been appointed Sister.

Miss Emily Robertson, trained at the London Hospital, and subsequently a member of the private nursing staff, has also been appointed Sister at the above hospital.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

Miss Elsie Schafer, to be Staff Nurse (provisionally); dated September 15th, 1909.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE

Transfers and Appointments.—Miss Theresa S. Brooks, to Horsham; Miss Mildred Dunn, to Bridgewater; Miss Olive Carpenter, to St. Austell; Miss Josephine M. Gill, to Douglas, Isle of Man; Miss Ethel Horrocks, to Shoreditch; Miss Mabel Keene, to Cardiff; Miss Irene Murphy, to Windsor; Miss Gertrude E. North, to Widnes; Miss Catherine A.

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