

Practical Points.

An improvement in railway service, says the *Newcastle Chronicle*, which is destined to benefit the public more than many of the "innovations" of recent years is the modern, well-equipped hospital car, a number of which have just recently been built by the Southern Pacific Railway Company, and located at various of their traffic centres for use in connection with railway disasters. There have been hospital cars before, but never one like this. The vehicle is a combination of the best of private cars, and the ready-for-service and give-every-comfort equipment of the modern hospital. The idea is to give not only quick and efficient aid to the injured, but to transport the sufferers with the greatest possible comfort, attended by nurses, surgeons, and all necessary appliances to the nearest hospital. In the event of a serious railway accident one of these cars, attached to a special railway engine, and possibly attended by a baggage car, is hurried to the scene, carrying surgeons, nurses, and all the usual emergency appliances for the patients. The car is about 67 feet in length, and has been so designed that patients may be lifted into stretchers through double doors, placed upon the operating table, and then readily and comfortably put into berths with the greatest ease. The operating room, provided with double swing doors on either side, is so arranged that injured passengers may be brought to the operating table, or to the beds, without having to be lifted from the stretchers, and each bed is so arranged and equipped that the stretchers can be moved into the spaces usually occupied, by the mattress, and allowed to remain there, thus obviating the suffering which might result from the transfer of the patients from one to the other. By means of sliding doors absolute privacy when operations are being performed or injuries dressed is obtained. By a patent mechanism the berths, when not in use, may be lowered into dustproof spaces under the floor, and in the space vacated by them are placed easy chairs and tables for dining, reading, and writing. Thus part of the car can be used as a drawing-room, while the remainder is occupied as a sleeper. In addition there is a private room with stationary bed, toilet, shower bath, lavatory, and lockers for the use of the surgeons in charge; an observation room with extension sofa, that can be transformed into upper and lower berths at night; and two revolving stationary chairs, kitchen quarters for nurses and servants, and every needed convenience for surgical apparatus, medicines, and supplies. There is a storage room for stretchers, a heating apparatus, a refrigerator, numerous lockers and wardrobes, and "all the comforts of home" arranged in the most compact and effective manner. The car generates the electricity required for its own illumination. On the Southern Pacific Railway these emergency hospitals have proved a decided boon, especially when required at places far removed from towns or cities provided with hospital accommodation.

Appointments.

LADY SUPERINTENDENTS.

Stanley Hospital, Liverpool.—Miss Mary Aspinall has been appointed Lady Superintendent. She was trained at the Guest Hospital, Dudley, where she afterwards held the position of Sister. Subsequently she held the position of Sister for four years at the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool, and for eighteen months has been Assistant Matron in the same institution.

Nursing Home, Stratford-on-Avon.—Miss Cottam, Matron of the Stratford-on-Avon Hospital, has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Nursing Home in succession to Miss Moseley, who has resigned the post after seventeen years' much appreciated work.

Thompson Memorial Home, Lisburn, Co. Antrim.—Miss Fairhurst has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Thompson Memorial Home, Lisburn, Co. Antrim. She at present holds the position of Matron of the Infirmary and Dispensary, Tiverton, Devon.

MATRON.

Faversham Cottage Hospital.—Miss Lily Seaton has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland Road, London, and has also worked on the staff of St. John's Hospital, Lewisham, and of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Union Hospital, Sheffield.—Miss Florence E. Carter has been appointed Home Sister and Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Union Hospital, Sheffield, and the South-Eastern Hospital, New Cross, under the M.A.B., and has held the position of Charge Nurse at the Wanstead Cottage Hospital, Essex, the Eastern Hospital, Homerton, and the Smallpox Hospital, Dartford. She has also held the positions of Ward Sister and Night Superintendent at the City Hospital, Sheffield. She has had experience in private nursing and is a certified midwife.

SISTERS.

Salford Union Infirmary.—Miss Marion E. Freeman has been appointed Sister. She was trained at St. Mary Abbot's Infirmary, Kensington, and has been Sister at the East Lancashire Infirmary, Blackburn.

Jaffray Hospital, Erdington.—Miss Florence Nicholson has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Cottage Hospital, Bromley, and has worked for eighteen months at the Trained Nurses' Institute, Weymouth, and been Sister for 9½ years at St. Bartholomew's Convalescent Home, Swanley, Kent.

NIGHT SUPERINTENDENTS.

Southwark Infirmary, East Dulwich.—Miss E. L. Martlin has been appointed Night Superintendent. She was trained at the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, where she subsequently held the positions of Staff Nurse and Sister; she has also been Charge Nurse under the Metropolitan Asylums' Board at the South-Eastern Hospital, New Cross, and Sister at the St. Pancras South Infirmary. She has also had experience of private nursing.

STAFF NURSE.

British Hospital, Port Said.—Miss Mabel P. Cato has been appointed Staff Nurse. She was trained at

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