

their work would gain in value in the eyes of the nursing profession.

It is proposed that probationers should be allowed to join at the minimum age of 21. Thus they could obtain their two years' experience in infectious nursing before the age at which probationers are admitted for training to a large general hospital.

At the convalescent hospitals it is proposed to retain the grades of Assistant Nurse, as well as in connection with the small-pox hospitals and River Ambulance Service.

At the Convalescent Hospitals it is also proposed to revert to the term Nursing Attendant instead of Nursemaid, which is really a misnomer.

The approval and adoption of the Hospitals' Committee's proposals were moved from the chair by Mr. J. T. Helby, Chairman of the Board, when an amendment was moved by Mr. Luttmann-Johnson to refer the recommendation back for further consideration and report. A long discussion ensued in the course of which Mr. Harold Spender supported the proposal to create the grade of Sister, and drew attention to the strain entailed by permanent night duty.

In the result the amendment was lost, and the Committee's recommendation adopted by a large majority.

We congratulate the Metropolitan Asylums' Board most cordially on their decision, which cannot fail to increase the efficiency and popularity of its Nursing Service.

## Practical Points.

### A Slow Combustion Fire.

A correspondent is recommended in the *British Medical Journal* to pack the fire-grate with pieces of coal as he would pack a child's bricks into the box, and fill the interstices with coal dust, then light a fire on the top, when he will have an ideal fire for a sick room. It will burn without attention for twelve to twenty-four hours if well laid. The writer adds: Take some pieces of coal, of a suitable size, and pack the grate with them, as closely as they will lie, having placed one layer on the bottom of the grate, fill the cracks between the coals with coal dust, then put a second layer of pieces of coal, and fill with dust as before, and so do till the grate is full to the top bar; then with paper, wood, and coal, or with a fire lighter, proceed to make a fire on the top of the filled grate, feed this with cinders or pieces of coal till it is well burning. Then the fire will burn for twelve or more hours according to the care with which the grate has been filled. My library grate is an old-fashioned hob grate; when the fire has been lighted in this manner, it has burnt from 10 one day to noon the next; of course it is not a fierce fire, and it should not be poked. The tighter the coal is packed the slower the combustion. Coke and coal dust will make a good fire, but is not so lasting.

Private nurses will be glad to know of this method of keeping a fire in through the night.

## Appointments.

### LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

**Maternity Hospital, Leeds.**—Miss E. M. Edwards has been appointed Lady Superintendent. She was trained at the County Hospital, York, and at the Glasgow Maternity Hospital, and has held the post of District Head Nurse at the Glasgow Maternity Hospital, and is at present Assistant Matron and District Superintendent at the Liverpool Maternity Hospital.

**West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone.**—Miss E. Grocott has been appointed Lady Superintendent. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, and had experience of private nursing in connection with its private nursing staff. She has also been Sister at the General Hospital, Northampton, and Night Superintendent, Home Sister, and Assistant Matron at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.

### MATRONS.

**London Fever Hospital, N.**—Miss Fleming has been placed in the position of Matron on six months' probation. She was trained at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, and has been Staff Nurse at the Children's Hospital, Bradford. She had some months' experience at the Westminster Hospital, and has been Staff Nurse, and subsequently Sister, for three years at the London Fever Hospital.

**The Hartlepoons Hospital, Hartlepool.**—Miss A. Stevenson has been appointed Matron of the Hartlepoons Hospital. She was trained at the Sheffield Royal Hospital, and has since been Sister of the Men's Medical Ward, and for the last two years has held the post of Night Sister. She has acted as Matron during holidays, and also taken House-keeper's duties in that institution, and on several occasions taken charge at the country annexe.

**Kettering and District General Hospital, Kettering.**—Miss F. M. Smithies has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Bolton Infirmary, Lancashire, and has held the positions of Sister at the Cardiff Infirmary; Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Bridgend; Deputy Matron at the Royal Infirmary, Hull; Lady Superintendent of the General Hospital, Altrincham; and Matron of the Monkwearmouth Hospital.

### NURSE MATRON.

**Cottage Hospital, Malton, Yorkshire.**—Miss Frances C. Lorrimer has been appointed Nurse Matron. She was trained at the General Infirmary, Leeds, and has held the positions of Charge Nurse at the Scarborough Hospital, Sister and Night Superintendent at the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, and Assistant Matron at the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

### ASSISTANT MATRON.

**Maternity Hospital, Leeds.**—Miss Alice L. Moore has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Adelaide Hospital and at the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin. She has held the position of Sister at the Liverpool Lying-in Hospital, and at the Leith General Hospital, and has been Night Superintendent at the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin. She is a certified midwife.

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