

Practical Points.

A Mosquito Proof Steamer. Dr. H. Wolferstan Thomas describes in the *Lancet* a small cargo boat, the *Vincent*, despatched by the Booth Steamship Company on her maiden trip to the Amazon, which is designed to minimise the risk from infection and discomfort from anopheles mosquitoes which often fly on to a boat which has to hug the shore, and cause an outbreak of malaria. The screening was carried out from plans by Dr. Melville Davidson, the medical superintendent of the company. The screening of the ship is so arranged that the living quarters of the crew and officers are protected from mosquitoes. Each port-hole is provided with a movable screened frame which is so adapted that the port-hole can be closed and screwed down without withdrawing the screen. The entrances to the main deck are protected by wire gauze spring doors, and at each side of the ash-shoot, which is of necessity open to the ingress of mosquitoes, extra sets of screened doors are placed. The doors and port-holes of the outside bridge deck cabins are also screened; the doctor's quarters and the hospital are situated further aft, and are thoroughly screened.

The interior arrangements permit of no old-fashioned water reservoir over the wash-basin in the cabins, and running water is supplied everywhere. The slops from the basins run into pipes emptying directly over the side. This arrangement very satisfactorily deprives the *stegomyia* larvæ of breeding places in the cabins. The ventilator pipes in the cabins and along the alleyways are each protected by a wire gauze screened frame, which slips into a grooved moulding fixed round the shaft, and is kept in place by three small buttons. The screening is composed of 18 mesh phosphor-bronze wire, a material which is more suitable for a moist, humid climate than brass or copper.

An ocean-going mosquito-proof steamer also recently arrived in the Mersey from the Clyde, where she has been built to the order of Messrs. John Holt, of Liverpool, after whom she is named.

Professor Major Ronald Ross's recommendations have been carried out by the owners for mosquito-proofing all living quarters. Copper gauze fittings are provided for all doors, windows, side-ports, skylights, ventilators, and passages, to prevent the malaria-bearing mosquito entering.

Syringing the Ear. Mr. W. Stuart-Low considers the dangers incurred in syringing out the ear in the presence of a chronic discharge are very great indeed. All watery fluids encourage bacterial growth and enhance what is the main object to prevent and avoid. Syringing is always liable to have the effect of driving sepsis further afield. He never syringes on any pretext, and entirely disapproves of syringing the ear in any way whatever in the presence of a discharge. Wiping out the ear with twisted wool is all that is necessary and advisable to entrust to the patient.

Appointments.**LADY SUPERINTENDENT AND MATRON.**

Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.—Miss Flora T. B. Cameron has been appointed Lady Superintendent and Matron. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and has held the positions of Night Superintendent and Assistant Matron at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford; Matron of the Children's Hospital, Bradford; and Lady Superintendent of the Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury.

MATRONS.

The General Hospital, Weston-Super-Mare.—Miss E. Graham has been appointed Matron. She was trained at Guy's Hospital, S.E., and has held the positions of Sister at the Southwark Infirmary, Sister-in-Charge of the Outpatient Department at the East London Hospital for Children, and Assistant Matron at the Royal United Hospital, Bath. She is a certified midwife.

SISTERS.

Mount Vernon Hospital for Consumption, Hampstead.—Miss Elizabeth Mabel Bickerdike has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the East Lancashire Infirmary, Blackburn, and subsequently had experience of infectious work at the Borough Fever Hospital, Croydon. She then joined the Army Nursing Service and subsequently Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service. Since November, 1906, she has been working as a private nurse in connection with the Registered Nurses' Society.

Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, Eastbourne.—Miss S. Bentham has been appointed Sister of Male and Children's Wards. She was trained at Kettering and District General Hospital, and has been Sister at the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital, and had experience of private nursing at St. James's Nurses' Home, Liverpool.

Devonshire Hospital, Buxton.—Miss Alice Unsworth has been appointed Sister. She was trained at St. Helen's Hospital, Lanes, and Carlisle Fever Hospital, and has been Staff Nurse at the City Hospital, Liverpool, Staff Nurse and Sister at the Isolation Hospital, Wallasey, and Night Superintendent at the Warrington Infirmary, Lancashire.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE FOR NURSES.**GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT IN AUSTRALIA.**

Miss Michie, Superintendent of the Worcester City and County Nursing Association, and of the Nursing Institution, Worcester, has been appointed General Superintendent of district nursing in Australia.

Miss Michie, who is a Queen's Nurse, has worked in Worcester for the last seven years, and was formerly Superintendent of the Cornwall County Nursing Association.

She holds the C.M.B. certificate, received her district training in Liverpool, and afterwards worked as Queen's Nurse at Pembroke Dock.

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