

means a constant current of air is drawn away from the ward or room, thus keeping the air continuously changing.

Ventilators both in wards and private houses should be placed above the level of the patients' heads, that the fresh air may be mixed with the warmer atmosphere before reaching them, to provide a ready exit for the foul air, and also to provide uncontaminated air for those working in the wards.

Various mechanical methods are employed in hospitals for ventilating purposes, and the nurse should acquaint herself as far as possible with the means of regulating these in her ward. The main object of all is the supply of fresh air, which should be warmed before reaching the patients.

The Plenum System, in use in a few hospitals, has not only the advantage of warming the air, but changing it once in eight minutes, especially useful in out-patient departments and on visiting days.

In a private house, a good deal of tact will be required by the nurse to induce the patient to realise the necessity of fresh air in the sick-room, and that this can be obtained without causing a draught or giving him a chill.

Much depends on the time of year.

In summer both door and window may be allowed to be open. In winter the latter must be opened from the top, and in both cases the patient should be protected by screens if necessary.

Twice a day the patient should be well covered up, and the windows widely opened, and the whole atmosphere thoroughly changed.

If the sick room leads into another room the latter may be filled with fresh air, and the communicating door opened to allow its free admission to the sick room: this, though inefficient in itself, is a help.

A fire should be kept burning, for reasons previously stated, and in summer a lighted stove placed in the grate will help to carry out the same principle.

The Papers sent by Miss M. Punchard, Miss E. A. Waterman, Miss F. Sheppard, and Miss E. Marshall are highly commended.

#### QUESTION FOR THIS WEEK.

"How would you alleviate the discomfort of a patient to whom fluids have been forbidden for a period after an abdominal operation?"

Rules for competing for this Competition will be found on page xii.

## Appointments.

### LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

**Birmingham and Midland Homœopathic Hospital.**—Miss Isabel Kemp has been appointed Lady Superintendent. She was trained at the General Hospital, Northampton, and has been Matron of the Southwark Infirmary, East Dulwich.

### MATRONS.

**Home for Incurables, Newcastle-on-Tyne.**—Miss Wilkes has been appointed Matron of the Home for Incurables, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

**Grief and District Cottage Hospital.**—Miss Jessie A. Morison has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and has been Sister at Kirkcaldy Cottage Hospital, Sister and Dispenser at Arbroath Infirmary, and Matron of Galashiels Cottage Hospital.

### HEALTH LECTURER.

**County of Gloucestershire.**—Miss F. Williams has been appointed by the Gloucestershire School of Domestic Science Health Lecturer in the county. She was trained at the Woolwich Infirmary, and has been Charge Nurse at the West Ham Union, Staff Nurse at the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Ward Sister at the Central London Sick Asylum, Hendon, N.W., and Queen's Nurse at Leeds, Alcester, and Rawton-stall. She has also done private nursing and is a certified midwife and a member of the Territorial Force Nursing Service (1st Southern Hospital).

### QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE

Miss Mary Warburton, Staff Nurse, resigns her appointment. Dated February 15th, 1911.

### QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE

*Transfers and Appointments.*—Miss Mary Newbegin, to Southborough; Miss Dorothy Bennett, to Gateshead; Miss Isabella Muir, to Parkgate; Miss Frances Corneille, to Pemberton; Miss Emma Bizley, to Hull; Miss Emily Wilkinson, to Barkstone; Miss Mary A. Johns, to Middlewich.

### PRESENTATION.

Miss Bessie Leonard was presented on her resignation of the Matronship of the General Lying-in Hospital, York Road, S.E., with a silver tea-service on a plain plated tray as a wedding gift. Miss Whyte, the Secretary, made the presentation on behalf of the medical and nursing staff at an informal gathering of the staff. She voiced their sincere good wishes for Miss Leonard's future happiness. Many past midwives and monthly nurses trained in the school during Miss Leonard's term of office joined in the presentation.

### LECTURES ON PLAGUE.

Dr. F. M. Sandwith, Gresham Professor of Medicine, who has been lecturing on Plague at the City of London School, dealt in the first lecture with the Great Plague of London. The medical men of those days seem to have been quite panic-stricken, and "only 27 heroic medical men remained to minister to the needs of 240,000 persons; all the others fled the town to their undying shame."

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