

## NURSES AND INSURANCE.

The Committee of the Trained Women Nurses' Friendly Society wishes to impress upon all members the importance of applying for sickness benefit as soon as it is due to them—and not weeks after the event. If members will carefully study the regulations pasted into their insurance books, they will realise that unless they do this they infringe the rules, and are liable to fines; also they add greatly to the work of the secretary, in keeping the books up to date for the auditor.

The Nurses on the staff of the Nurses' Co-operation, 8, New Cavendish Street, London, W., have decided to pay the threepenny weekly contribution payable by the patients who are presumably their employers, as well as their own, under the Insurance Act, rather than be placed at a disadvantage in competing with nurses sent out from proprietary institutions. As the Co-operation is now licensed under the London County Council as an agency, the twenty original incorporated members of the Nurses' Co-operation are presumably no longer the employers of the nursing staff as they formerly were. All these contradictory Acts tampering with women's work, concerning which they are never consulted, have created most difficult problems in the management of such societies. An Agency in our opinion is not a professional co-operation of workers. This is the reason we hope to see the very injurious L.C.C. Act rescinded as far as trained Nurses are concerned, at some future date. That happy time may come when the nurses rouse themselves from their apathic indifference to their own professional affairs, so long as they do not feel the pinch personally. In the overcrowded market in which they have now to compete with unskilled labour, they *will* feel it before long, unless they do arouse themselves.

Now that the system adopted by so many hospitals of deducting the nurses' sickness benefit of 7s. 6d. a week from their wages, if they are off duty during the month, is coming into force, many nurses are applying to their Approved Societies for re-imburement for the deduction, who would not otherwise have thought it worth while to apply for a few shillings due to them, if off duty for a week or so. Mr. Dick, of the Nurses' Insurance Society, seems to think that the hospital which also obtains medical benefit by appointing a member of the staff on the panel for the nursing and domestic staff, is going to make quite a good thing of it. One thing is certain—the domestic staff will enjoy intervals of rest and recreation never before at their disposal.

## THE PASSING BELL.

Miss N. M. Baschmakowa, of St. Petersburg, the oldest sister of the Red Cross in Russia, who worked under Pirogoff in the Crimean war, has recently died at the age of 103.

## APPOINTMENTS.

### MATRON.

**Straton Cottage Hospital, North Cornwall.**—Miss M. Rodenhurst has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Nottingham General Hospital, and at King's College, London; and has been Matron at the Branch Hospital, in connection with the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.

**Open Air Sanatorium, Gateforth, near Selby.**—Miss Gertrude E. Ratledge has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the General Infirmary, Leeds, where she has done Sister's duty. She has also had experience of private nursing.

**Mark Hall Convalescent Home for Women, nr. Llandudno.**—Miss A. M. Oslar has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Wigan; and has held the following positions: Matron of the General Infirmary, Wrexham; of the Royal Institution for the Blind, Birmingham; and latterly of the Swithland Convalescent Home, Woodhouse Eaves, nr. Loughborough.

### SUPERINTENDENT.

**Sunderland District Nursing Association.**—Miss M. S. Barford has been appointed Superintendent. She was trained at the Royal Hospital, Salford; and was for six years Inspector and Assistant Superintendent at the Central Training Home for Queen's Nurses, Edinburgh; and for three years Matron of St. Andrew's Memorial Hospital, Fife.

### HOME SISTER.

**Monyhull Colony for Epileptics.**—Miss Elizabeth E. Bamber has been appointed Home Sister. She was trained at the Isleworth Infirmary and has held the position of Sister-in-Charge of the Infirmary at the Central London District Schools, Hanwell, and has had experience of private nursing. She is a certified midwife and holds the certificate of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses.

### THEATRE SISTER.

**The Infirmary, Dudley Road, Birmingham.**—Miss Frances Miller has been appointed Theatre Sister. She was trained at the Bethnal Green Infirmary; and has been Staff Nurse at the Grove Hospital, Tooting; Nurse, in connection with the East London District Nursing Association; and Sister at the Hammersmith Infirmary. She is a certified midwife.

### SISTER.

**Infectious Diseases Hospital, Skipton.**—Miss Alice Daggan has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Fever Hospital, Great Yarmouth and at the Shoreditch Infirmary. She has been Charge Nurse in the former institution; and Acting Sister at the latter.

**Northern Hospital, Winchmore Hill, N.**—The following appointments have been made to the position of Sister in the tubercular wards:—

Miss Eleanor Ascott, trained at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, who has been Assistant Nurse at the Park Hospital, Hither Green.

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