

glad to note from time to time that Committees recognise how much they owe to tactful matrons under present conditions, in keeping up the standard of nursing in the wards. Amongst them the Sister Matron of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital was reported to have surmounted all difficulties at the recent Annual Meeting of Governors.

Miss E. L. Williams, Matron of the Wood Green Hospital, has, we regret to learn, been compelled to resign the appointment, which she has filled with such devotion for a number of years. At the quarterly meeting of the Wood Green Council the resignation was formally accepted, and the Theatre Sister, Miss N. Dick, appointed as her successor.

The Chairman, Mr. G. T. Brown, spoke most warmly of Miss Williams' services, saying that she had not only been a most capable Matron, but a friend to all who had to do with the hospital, which she had brought to a high point of administrative perfection. They deeply deplored that her health had been undermined, partly, he could not help thinking, because she had been zealous and self-sacrificing, and had forgotten her own needs.

The employment of women nurses in the male wards of asylums does not find favour with the Doncaster Trade and Labour Council, and at a recent meeting of the Doncaster Guardians the Clerk produced correspondence with respect to a complaint by the Council on the subject. In this connection it is interesting to note the views of Dr. George M. Robertson, Physician Superintendent of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum, Morningside, expressed in a paper read at the General Meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association in London on February 17th.

Dr. Robertson has always been a firm supporter of the employment of women nurses for

the insane of both sexes, and largely owing to his enthusiasm "they now form a characteristic and firmly established feature of the modern Scottish system for the care of the insane." We hope to publish a considerable part of this valuable paper in due course.

Miss Annie W. Goodrich, of Teachers' College, Columbia University, recently President of the International Council of Nurses, has been appointed editor of the Department of Nursing in the *Modern Hospital*, owing to the resignation of Miss Mary M. Riddle, who has hitherto conducted it with such conspicuous

success, but has had to retire owing to ill-health. Several interesting questions are discussed this month.

"The Prevention of Typhoid Fever Among Nurses," by Elmer H. Funk, M.D., would suggest that many more cases of this disease occur amongst the nursing staffs in the United States and Canada than at home. Typhoid fever in a nurse is usually the result of contact infection, and among fifteen cases cited, known contact was established in nine instances. The contact was of the nature of repeated exposure to infection in the direct nursing of a patient or a group of patients with the disease. . . .

Almost without exception it has been found in those hospitals

where prophylactic immunization is practised that the incidence of the disease has been reduced. Dr. Funk has grounds for thinking that a wider application of anti-typhoid immunization among nurses will result in a distinct reduction in the incidence of the disease among them; a reduction which has not been accomplished in the past by instruction in the application of sanitary measures alone. It should, however, never be used with the thought of minimizing the importance of sanitary measures, but rather as an additional safeguard which experience teaches



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