

present the average number of working hours per day for day nurses is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  hours, but by a modified system of off-duty time, which includes one day off per week, the average number of working hours will approximate nearly 8, or  $55\frac{1}{4}$  hours per week. In the case of sisters their average working time now amounts to 55 hours per week, but instead of half a day weekly it is proposed that the sisters shall have one whole day off per week. This would reduce their working hours to 50 per week. With regard to night nurses, the principal change at present recommended is one night off per week instead of two nights off per month. In her report on the matter, the Matron states that probably the night nurses sit down two half-hours for meals during the night and until more accommodation is obtained such as the messroom as part of the Infirmary, she fails to see how their hours can be shortened. Although additional nurses might ease the work. The Matron thinks that consideration may be given to the question of providing and serving a hot meal during the night and an hour's rest in the messroom when such accommodation is available. At least 12 more nurses would be required to make the eight hours workable.

## THE ASSOCIATION OF TRAINED NURSES ENGAGED IN PUBLIC HEALTH WORK.

### CONFERENCE.

On Saturday, April 5th, Miss Katherine Bower, Inspector of Midwives at East Ham, will read a paper on Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the Members' Club Room at the Royal British Nurses' Association, 10, Orchard Street, W., at 3.30 p.m. It is hoped that nurses interested in this particular branch of Welfare Work will take part in the discussion afterwards. Only trained nurses may attend this Conference, and Miss Alderman, Honorary Secretary, will be pleased to have the names of those present who wish to join the Association.

### NURSING SISTER AS AN ANÆSTHETIST.

At a recent inquest at Doncaster on the wife of a miner, who died under an anæsthetic while being operated upon for appendicitis, it was stated that owing to the dearth of doctors the operation was performed by a woman house surgeon at the infirmary, single-handed, with a nursing sister acting as anæsthetist. Owing to the bad general condition of her health the woman failed to come out of the anæsthetic. The jury found that no blame attached to the house surgeon or to the staff, but added a rider that a medical practitioner should be called in to administer anæsthetics when operations were necessary.

## APPOINTMENTS.

### MATRON.

**Axminster Cottage Hospital.**—Miss Marjory Hatton has been appointed Matron. She was trained at Bristol Royal Infirmary, and was successively Night, Ward, and Home Sister at East Sussex Hospital, Hastings, and Matron of Lyme Regis Cottage Hospital. She holds the certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

### FIRST ASSISTANT MATRON.

**Beckett Street Infirmary, Leeds.**—Miss Eliza Janet Williams has been appointed First Assistant Matron. She was trained at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, and has been Sister at the Dreadnought Hospital, Greenwich, and has been Surgical, Medical and Operating Theatre Sister, Hospital Ship, Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service Reserve.

### NIGHT SISTER.

**Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway Road.**—Miss Edith Tanner has been appointed Night Sister. She was trained at the Hospital.

**Crumpsall Infirmary, Manchester.**—Miss Elizabeth Leach has been appointed Night Sister. She was trained at the Infirmary, where she held the post of X-ray and Assistant Theatre Sister.

**Brierley Hall Sanatorium, Bradford.**—Miss E. A. Robinson has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, where she was promoted to be Assistant Matron, and has also been Matron of the General and Tuberculosis Hospital for Serbians in Corsica.

### SISTER.

**Birmingham General Hospital (Venereal Disease Department).**—Miss Elizabeth Hatfield has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, where she has been holiday, ward, and night sister. Miss Hatfield also holds the certificates of Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, and of the Central Midwives Board.

## PRESENTATION.

A presentation was recently made to Miss Johnson, who is retiring after twenty years' work as district nurse at Wolstanton, Staffordshire. A large number of friends assembled in St. Andrews Hall, Porthill, to witness the ceremony, when an illuminated address and a cheque for £51 4s. was presented. During her long term of service Miss Johnson has won the affection of the people by her kindness and readiness to help and advise all in need, and it was only natural that there should be a desire to express this feeling for her in tangible form.

## THE PASSING BELL.

The sad news is announced that Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, President of the National Council of Women, was suddenly summoned from London to the death bed of her husband on Friday in last week. Many friends will deeply sympathise with her in her great sorrow.

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