

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Royal Albert Hospital, Devonport.—Miss Caroline Webber, R.R.C., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital where she also held the position of Sister, and has been Night Superintendent at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford. Since 1914, she has done two years' service overseas, and has been Matron for two years of the Officers' Hospital, in connection with the 3rd London General Hospital.

The Infirmary, Kingston-on-Thames.—Miss Anna Sinclair has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and the Brighton Hospital for Women, and has been Sister in Charge at the Fort George Garrison Infirmary, Matron at the Sanatorium, Peebles, Matron of the Great Barr Hospital, and, during the war, Matron of hospitals at Weybridge, Exeter, and Kilmarnock.

SISTER.

North Lonsdale Hospital, Barrow-in-Furness.—Miss Constance Passmore has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Victoria General Hospital, Barnet, and has been Masseuse at the Second Northern General Hospital, Sister at the West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, and Temporary Sister at the West London Hospital, Hammersmith.

Eccleston Hall Sanatorium, St. Helens.—Miss Rebecca Lineham has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Peasley Cross Sanatorium, St. Helens, and the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, and since completing her training, has worked on its private staff.

SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL NURSE.

Notts. Education Committee.—Miss Mary Shaw has been appointed Superintendent School Nurse. She was trained at the West Derby Union Infirmary, Liverpool, and has been Health Visitor and School Nurse under the Lincoln County Council.

PRESENTATION.

The resignation of Miss Annie Smith, Matron of the Kingston Infirmary, is widely regretted by all sections of the Infirmary Staff; and, before leaving the institution, she was the recipient of many gifts, testifying to the affection and esteem in which she is held, as well as of numerous letters from former nurses, and from patients who have been cared for in the institution. Past and present members of the Infirmary staff presented cutlery, and silver and other table requisites; the domestic staff a cruet stand, the workers in the laundry a handsome Wedgwood biscuit box, and the "male staff" a cake basket. We much regret to learn that Miss Smith's resignation is caused by ill-health, and hope that the rest and care in a nursing home which she is at present receiving, will speedily result in its re-establishment. Miss Smith has done excellent work during her term of office at the Kingston Infirmary, and the reputation of the Nursing School stands high. She was also President of the Nurses' League, in which she took a keen interest.

OUR FOREIGN LETTER.

A VISIT TO CRACOW (OLD CAPITAL OF KINGDOM OF POLAND AND CAPITAL OF AUSTRIAN POLAND).

By MISS JENTIE PATERSON.

Poland has no rolling stock of her own, but uses a conglomeration raked from "awe the airts the wind doth blaw," consequently, the trains are slow and crowded; added to this, coal is short and that used of poor quality. The *express* trains stop at most stations, the ordinary ones in between as well; that and the price of the ticket seem the only difference.

We started for Cracow from Zawiercie, at 7.30, one glorious Sunday morning. It was the Feast of the Anniversary of the Virgin Mary. Already crowds of gaily dressed peasants were *en route* for Czestochowa, the Lourdes of Poland. We were told that, in peace time, the pilgrimage was made on foot; considering the congested state of the railway—Poland was fighting on four fronts—I felt they might well have continued the custom. As we patiently waited for our train, three trains passed through, going towards Czestochowa; one presented a never-to-be-forgotten sight—fully packed compartments, so full that the doors hung open, whilst people of all ages rode on the roof of the carriages or on the footboards, hanging on to any available projection! As the train moved slowly out, it reminded one of a gum fly paper which had justified its existence.

After three hours' wait, our train arrived, and having first-class tickets we managed to get seats. A few stations down the line a young commissioner of police joined us, and immediately a notice reserving the carriage was posted on the window. This habit has its advantages, if you are in the carriage before the notable arrives, but its disadvantages will be obvious later. The country south became more wooded and undulating and eventually, after three and a-half hours of intense heat, we sighted the towers of Cracow.

We had been warned that hotel accommodation was well nigh impossible, but nothing daunted we sallied forth prepared to tip well. We could afford to, as we received 150 Polish marks for £1, and 38 Polish kroner (they still count in Austrian values) go to the 20 marks.

Hotel after hotel turned us down, and the other two began considering where we might have to spend the night. I held that such doubts jeopardised our chances and refused to consider the proposition; eventually, we struck an hotel where the Jew "portier" suggested the possibility of one room in a few hours. I immediately clinched, though the fact that the party consisted of two ladies and a medical man, might have deterred me. While we waited for the refusal of the room, we lunched in the restaurant and noticed numerous Allied officers. Presently, a genial British general came over to our table.

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