

1923, for immediate operation. This was performed by a surgeon who was now in New Zealand, and she was discharged a month later. On September 15th last another operation was performed, and a pair of Littlewood's forceps, six inches long, broken but held together by erosion, were found in the pelvis. The patient died two days later.

Dr. H. B. Weir, who made the *post mortem* examination said in evidence that death was due to peritonitis following an operation for the removal of a foreign body from the intestines. At St. Thomas' Hospital the custom was to hold the Sister responsible for seeing after all the instruments of an operation. The surgeon, however, was responsible for everything, and he could not condone a surgeon leaving a pair of forceps behind.

We are glad that Dr. Weir placed the responsibility where it rightly belongs. Surgeons are so well served, that they are apt to rely implicitly on a trusted Sister, but the responsibility, should anything untoward occur, is ultimately theirs, and fatal cases resulting from forceps or sponges left in the abdominal cavity prove that the human instrument is fallible.

Before the abdomen is closed after an operation, instruments and swabs (which have of course been counted before the operation) should be counted by the Sister before the surgeon, and checked by him. Only so can risks be reduced to a minimum. The life of the patient is at stake, and responsibility for this count should not be placed on one person.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

General Hospital, Stroud, Glos.—Miss Bertha J. C. Laughrin, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at University College Hospital, London, and was later Ward Sister at that Institution. She has also been Night Sister at the County Hospital, Lincoln; and Theatre Sister at University College Hospital. During the War Miss Laughrin served at the Northern General Hospital, Lincoln. She has also been matron of Paignton and District Hospital; Sister Superintendent of the Burrow Hill Colony and Sanatorium, Frimley, and Assistant Matron at the County Hospital, Lincoln. Miss Laughrin has also worked in Canada.

Royal Eye and Ear Hospital, Bradford.—Miss P. Robson, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the General Infirmary, Stockport, and has been Sister at the Devonshire Hospital, Buxton; Sister at the General Infirmary, Stockport; Sister Tutor, at the Hope Hospital, Manchester; and Assistant Matron, North Ormesby Hospital, Middlesbrough.

Isolation Hospital, Basingstoke.—Miss Ada Bull, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at Royal Hospital, Sheffield, and City Hospital, Lodge Moor, Sheffield. She served with the Territorial Army Nursing Service as Ward Sister, Night Superintendent and Matron. She has also been Matron, Isolation Hospital, Keynsham, and Matron, Isolation Hospital, Barnet.

ASSISTANT MATRON AND SISTER TUTOR.

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.—Miss M. E. Wortley, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron and Sister Tutor. She was trained at Kidderminster Infirmary and Children's Hospital, and has been Staff Nurse at the Royal Free Hospital; Theatre Sister, Ward Sister and Night Superintendent at Ancoats Hospital, Manchester; and holds the Housekeeping certificate of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT NURSE AND SISTER TUTOR.

Tynemouth Union Hospital.—Miss Cornelia L. Stratton, S.R.N. has been appointed Assistant Superintendent Nurse and Sister Tutor. She was trained at the Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, and has been Charge Sister at the Grantham General Hospital, Ward Sister at the High Teams Hospital, Gateshead; and Night Sister at West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead.

SISTER-TUTOR.

York City and District Infirmary and York County Hospital.—Miss Doris Tayler, S.R.N., has been appointed Sister-Tutor. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, and the National Hospital, Queen Square. She has been Night Sister

at Bolingbroke Hospital, London; Ward Sister, Taunton and Somerset Hospital; Out-Patient Sister at South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Plymouth; Sister-Tutor at Crumpsall Infirmary, Manchester, and at the Royal Infirmary, Derby.

LEGACIES TO NURSES.

Baroness Strathcona, of Mount Royal, Québec, and Glencoe in Argyll, left £4,000 to her nurse, Miss Ruby Freeman.

Mr. James Pringle, of Edinburgh, left £4,000 for a fund to be administered for the benefit of the nurses of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

Miss Bessie Marianne Wood, of Worcester, left £200 to Nurse Churchill Waters and £100 to Nurse Helen Grove.

Miss Charlotte Martha Halls, of Harpenden, left £200 to Miss Elizabeth Webber, her nurse.

Miss Elizabeth Keir Clouston, of Holland Park, London, left £100 to each of her nurses, Miss H. M. Murphy and Mrs. E. M. Prickett, and £100 each to Nurse Cox and Nurse Hill, "who have attended to me with such care during my recent illness" if still in her service.

Mr. George Thomas Cockayne, of Little Ouseburn, near York, bequeathed £50 to Nurse R. R. Tuffnell.

WEDDING BELLS.

Miss Marjory K. Watt, S.R.N., has resigned her position on the Registered Nurses' Society upon her marriage to Mr. John G. Gray, of Arthurlie Drive, Giffnock, N.B., which took place on September 11th. Highly trained at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Miss Watt's excellent professional services will be missed by doctors and patients, and her colleagues on the R.N.S. will wish her and her husband a very happy future.

Miss Ruby J. Backler, who has been a most highly valued member of the Registered Nurses' Society for upwards of six years, was married to Dr. C. Campbell-Mackinnon on October 7th, at St. Marylebone Parish Church at 1.15, and her colleagues attended the ceremony. Dr. Campbell Mackinnon and Miss Backler met at Middlesex Hospital during student days, and we are pleased to learn that the future appears all *couleur de rose*. Good wishes and many beautiful and useful gifts have been showered upon them.

THE PASSING BELL.

The death of Miss Lydia Hardement, late Matron, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, took place on September 16th at The Spring Pension Hospital, Hanwell. Miss Hardement was trained at Guy's Hospital for 3 years where she continued working for some time after. She joined the Army Nursing Service in December, 1885, was appointed Superintendent-Sister in March, 1897, and promoted Matron in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service in February, 1903. Miss Hardement served in Malta and South Africa.

The sudden death of Mr. C. J. Davenport, F.R.C.S., at Shanghai recently will be noted with much regret by his contemporaries at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He relinquished brilliant prospects at home to go to China in 1889 as a medical missionary, and had worked there ever since. He married shortly afterwards Miss Amelia Miles, a Sister at St. Bartholomew's, to whom we offer our most sincere sympathy.

URGENCY CASES HOSPITAL.

BAR-LE-DUC — REVIGNY, 1915-1918.

We are asked to state that the Eighth Annual Dinner will take place on Saturday, October 23rd, 1926, at Canuto's Restaurant, 88, Baker Street, London, W. 1 (entrance in Paddington Street), at 6.45 for 7 o'clock.

The party will adjourn at 9 o'clock to 1A, Portman Mansions (a few minutes' walk from the restaurant) where Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth will also be very happy to see any member of the staff who is unable to be present at the dinner.

R.S.V.P. to Mr. A. H. Lloyd, 28, Great Ormond Street, W.C. 1, from whom dinner tickets at 7s. 6d. (exclusive of wine) and all information may be obtained.

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