

was attributed to gastric causes, compared with one day in 7½ for tramcar workers. These conclusions are accepted by the present conference.

Since the omnibus stoppage a new agreement was reached between the London Passenger Transport Board and the Transport and General Workers' Union, providing for improved terminal facilities and breaks in each spell of duty equivalent to not less than 5 per cent. of the journey time, but it is too early to say what effect these changes may have on the men's health.

The conference considered that an enquiry into hospital records was not promising, but is examining methods of discovering the causes of gastric sickness and is trying to measure the influence, if any, of irregular meals, nervous strain, exhaust fumes and speedier services.

#### NEW SOURCE OF RADIUM.

What is hoped may prove to be a new source of radium is being investigated in Canada, where, as described by a special correspondent of *The Times*, Mme. Curie-Joliot, elder daughter of Mme. Curie, discoverer of radium, has begun experiments on samples of pitch-blende from the Eldorado Gold Mines at Great Bear Lake, Ontario.

It is hoped that they will lead to the recovery from the ore of a radium group of minerals in sufficient quantities to warrant commercial working. Hitherto these minerals, particularly that known as Radium D, have been produced only in the laboratory.

The ore body is reported to be large and the pitchblende of high grade. The new vein has already been opened up for a distance of 160 feet and is now being explored for the first time at depth. At the central working shaft-sinking has reached 740 feet, and will continue to 890 feet.

Mme. Curie-Joliot, who is aged forty-one, entered the Curie Laboratories of the Radium Institute, became a Doctor of Science in 1926, and a year later married M. Frédéric Joliot, a brilliant chemist.

#### WEDDING BELLS.

The wedding took place on September 8th of Miss M. M. Craig, late Matron of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, to J. E. Jeffrey, Esq., M.B., of the Merse, Dalmeir, at Ballochmorrie, Ayrshire. Miss Craig was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and, on resigning the position of Matron, received many handsome gifts from the Board of Management of the Infirmary and the Nursing Staff as well as from individual members. The many nurses who received their training under her supervision will unite in wishing her every happiness in her married life.

#### THE DISTRICT NURSE.

Long hours of work, scant time for leisure, her weariness she must disguise; duty so often barring pleasure—she must be tolerant and wise. She must be cheerful midst much sorrow, find beauty where no beauty grows, and draw fresh strength for each new sorrow, this comforter of many woes.

She trudges here, she trudges there, in cold and heat, in sun and rain; disperses fear and halves a care, inspires new hope and lessens pain. Not merely nurse, adviser, friend, with understanding kindly ways, she labours hard unto the end and seldom hears a word of praise.

Yet where she goes tired eyes grow brighter. It is the Nurse! All will be well. Now troubles seem to grow much lighter, she's worked her magic, cast her spell. She is "the angel in the street," whose work is healing of all kinds; nor does she deem her work complete if she ease not sad, troubled minds. *The District Nurse!* She does so much just by her tender human touch.

WILHELMINA STITCH.

## APPOINTMENTS.

### NIGHT SUPERINTENDENT.

**East End Maternity Hospital, 396, Commercial Road, London, E.**—Miss Alice Maud Sleight, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Lady Superintendent. She was trained at the Middleton Sanatorium, Ilkley, Yorks, at the Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, where she was the Bronze Medallist, and gained First Class Honours in Reports, Practical Nursing, Anatomy and Physiology, and Medical Nursing, also gained Second Class Honours in Surgical Nursing. Miss Sleight received her midwifery training at the Sunderland Maternity Hospital, and has been Staff Nurse at the Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, Staff Midwife at the Westminster Hospital, and Labour Ward Sister at the University College Hospital, London, and Matron at St. Mary's Maternity Hospital, West Croydon. She holds the Midwife Teachers' Certificate, is approved as a Teacher by the Central Midwives Board, and received her Housekeeping Training at Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton, Hants.

### MATRON.

**Royal United Hospital, Bath.**—Miss R. C. Shackles, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at Guy's Hospital, London, where she was later Ward, Home and Office Sister, and Second Assistant Matron, and at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, where she has held positions of District Staff Midwife, Sister-in-Charge of District and Nurses' Home, Theatre Sister and Ward Sister. Miss Shackles holds the Diploma in Nursing of the London University.

**Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham.**—Miss D. E. Poole, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Infirmary, Walsall, and has been Staff Nurse and Sister-in-Charge of the Surgical Ward at the Hackney Hospital, Homerton; Sister-in-Charge of the Male Medical Ward; Sister-in-Charge of the Children's Ward; Sister-in-Charge, Gynaecological Department; Night Superintendent, Assistant Matron, and First Assistant Matron at the Selly Oak Hospital, where on many occasions she has acted as Matron during the Matron's absence. Miss Poole holds a Housekeeping Certificate.

**Berkshire Mental Hospital, Wallingford.**—Miss N. L. Hodges, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Stephen's Hospital, London, and at Bexley Hospital, Kent, and has been Ward Sister at St. Alfege's Hospital, Greenwich; Night Superintendent at Springfield Mental Hospital, Tooting; Second Assistant Matron and Acting Deputy Matron at Darenth Park Hospital, Dartford; Sister Tutor and relief Deputy Matron and Home Sister at Shenley Mental Hospital; Sister Tutor and Home Sister at the Brighton County Borough Mental Hospital, Haywards Heath; and Deputy Matron at Wilts County Mental Hospital, Devizes.

**Western Infirmary, Glasgow.**—Miss E. M. Robertson, R.G.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, where she has been Sister Tutor and Assistant Matron.

### ASSISTANT MATRON.

**West Sussex County Mental Hospital, Graylingwell, Chichester.**—Miss Winifred Alice Gratton, S.R.N., has been appointed Second Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Westminster Hospital, London, and at the Darenth Training Colony for the Mentally Defective, and at the Long Grove Mental Hospital, Epsom; and has been Day and Night Sister at the Long Grove Mental Hospital; Home Sister and Sister-Tutor at the Maudsley Hospital, London; Assistant Matron at the York City Mental Hospital, and Assistant Matron at the Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone.

**Infectious Diseases Hospital, Seacroft, Leeds.**—Miss J. Lee, S.R.N., has been appointed Third Assistant Matron. She was trained at the General Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and at the Willesden Municipal Hospital, Neasden, where she was later Staff Nurse and Sister. Miss Lee has also been Ward Sister at the City Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and second Night Sister and Deputy Housekeeping Sister at the General Hospital, Northampton, where she received her Housekeeping Training.

### SISTER TUTOR.

**Portsmouth Royal Hospital, Portsmouth.**—Miss F. Ibbetson, S.R.N., has been appointed Sister Tutor. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, and has been Home Sister and Sister Tutor at the General Hospital, Jersey; and Sister Tutor at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

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