

College of Nursing, and until the Ministry of Health realises that thousands of these professional workers refuse to be governed by employers, there will be no hope of professional unity in their ranks.

Noblesse Oblige.

May we call the attention of Lord Horder to this fact.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Infectious Diseases Hospital, Portsmouth.—Miss Mary Brown, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Oldham, and has been Deputy-Matron at the City Hospital, Cottingham, Hull.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Whitecross Institution, Warrington.—Miss M. A. Nevin, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at Jericho Hospital, Bury, Lancs., where she was later Staff Nurse and Ward Sister, and has been Night Sister at the Scarborough Institution, and Assistant Matron at the Children's Homes, Chichester. Miss Nevin holds the Housekeeping Diploma of the General Hospital, Bootle.

Jepp Hospital for Women, Sheffield.—Miss Olga Elgar, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norfolk, where she was later Home Sister, and at Westcotes Maternity Hospital, Leicester. Miss Elgar also held posts as Ward Sister and Out-Patient Sister, and holds the Housekeeping Certificate of the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent.

NIGHT SUPERINTENDENT.

St. Giles' Hospital, Camberwell, S.E.—Miss Florence M. Foley, S.R.N., has been appointed Night Superintendent. She was trained at the Mile End Hospital, London, E., and has held appointments as Sister, including administrative duties for the past four years. Miss Foley has been Sister at St. Peter's Hospital, London.

SISTER TUTOR.

Mayday Hospital, Thornton Heath.—Miss Muriel Hughes, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Sister Tutor. She was trained at Croesnewydd Hospital, Wrexham, at the Lincoln City Maternity Home, and at the Chester Royal Infirmary. Miss Hughes has been Staff Nurse at Croesnewydd Hospital; Staff Nurse at Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton; Staff Nurse at the Burton Road Hospital, Lincoln; Sister at the Lincoln City Maternity Home; and has been engaged at Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, until appointed to Mayday Hospital.

HOUSEKEEPING SISTER.

Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.—Miss Margaret Elliott, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Housekeeping Sister. She was trained at the London Hospital, Whitechapel, E., and has been Sister in the Women's Medical and Maternity Ward, Cornelia and East Dorset Hospital, Poole; Night Sister, Acting Home Sister and Assistant Housekeeping Sister at the Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings. Miss Elliott holds the Housekeeping Certificate of the General Hospital, Nottingham.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

Staff Appointments.

The Minister of Health has appointed Miss E. M. R. Russell-Smith and Miss E. A. Sharp to be Assistant Secretaries (Acting) of the Ministry of Health.

The League of Red Cross Societies transferred its Secretariat from Paris to Geneva in September. Its Offices are installed at 6, Rue de l'Athénée, Geneva, Switzerland.

TERRITORIAL ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

The Matron-in-Chief sends New Year greetings to all members of the T.A.N.S., and desires to remind those (including serving members) who have not yet sent their enrolment parchments to their principal matrons that these are now due.

NEPOTISM IN HIGH PLACES.

Whilst we are quite justifiably reviling the German clique of tyrants for their predatory propensities in securing and investing private fortunes of millions in foreign countries in fear of a rainy day, the disclosures of nepotism in our Government offices has aroused indignation far and wide.

First the Cunnison case at the Ministry of Pensions—to which we alluded last month—since which time there have been further disclosures of the most discreditable character.

The Civil Service Clerical Association and the War Office.

The Civil Service Clerical Association has tackled the War Office, which produced an order that the wives of Civil Servants were to be employed only in exceptional circumstances and not in the same establishments as their husbands.

The announcement followed questions addressed to Ministers in the House of Commons on appointments for officials' wives and daughters.

An officer of the Association commented: "The order is all right as far as it goes, but we are approaching the War Office to have it applied to the wives of military officers. Many are employed in the same establishments as their husbands.

"We are also taking steps to ensure that the wives do not get round this order by joining the Auxiliary Territorial Service. We are asking the War Office, as well, to ensure that jobs made vacant by the withdrawal of wives shall be filled from the ranks of unemployed clerks and not by members of the A.T.S."

Official's Wife as Secretary.

Mr. Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, referred in a written Parliamentary reply to the case of the wife of the highly paid Under-Secretary of the Admiralty, Mr. G. F. Cotton, who had been appointed as secretary to her husband.

He states that she worked at the Admiralty in a similar capacity for two years during the late war at salaries ranging between 42s. and 72s. 6d. per week.

"I do not think," Mr. Churchill added, "that the employment of wives of Admiralty officials, as their secretaries, would be desirable as a general practice, and I have given directions accordingly. Having, however, examined the merits of this particular case I do not propose to cancel the appointment."

The cancellation of these blatant jobs is the only method by which the public purse can be protected, and we regret that the First Lord has condoned the above appointment. It is scandalous that the wives of these highly salaried officials should deprive skilled clerical workers, without social influence, of a means of livelihood, and the sooner the Government realises that the "gold diggers" will have a day of reckoning if this scandal continues the better.

SKILLED PROFESSIONAL WOMEN IN NEED.

Already a deputation of representatives of women's organisations have appealed to women Members of Parliament at the House of Commons to urge by every means in their power the vital necessity for taking immediate and definite steps to assist professional and trained women who are in severe straits through losing their employment as a direct result of the war.

That wives of wealthy public servants should grab well-paid office under these conditions is reprehensible in the extreme.

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