

number of new infections at present going untreated, and would reduce the danger to the community presented by the increased incidence now becoming apparent. Early action is particularly needed in areas where new problems have been created by the establishment of new industrial units or military stations, and the need is increased by the arrangements now being instituted for the treatment of Service patients.

In view of the new needs created by the circumstances of the war and of the calls on the treatment service likely to be made by members of the Forces, the Minister has decided to assist the Local Authorities concerned by the payment of a grant of 75 per cent. of approved expenditure incurred in extending the treatment service to meet war-time needs.

The Minister is well aware of the many calls already made on Local Authorities, but he is sure that they will share his anxiety to neglect no precaution which may avert a further increase in the incidence of venereal diseases with their inevitable toll of suffering and loss of man power. The nation's war effort depends on the health of the community no less than on its energy and resolution.

## APPOINTMENTS.

### MATRON.

**Roya Buckinghamshire Hospital, Aylesbury.**—Miss D. J. Berry, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, where later she became Home Sister. Miss Berry has also been Assistant Matron and Home Sister at the Royal Victoria and West Hants Hospital, Bournemouth; Sister-in-Charge of the Zachary Merton Convalescent Home for Nurses (St. Bartholomew's Hospital); and Matron at the Three Counties Emergency Hospital, Arlesey.

**Liverpool Sanatorium, Delamere Forest, Frodsham, via Warrington.**—Miss Miriam Gertrude Brain, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the City General Hospital, Sheffield, where she was later Ward Sister, Night Sister, and Theatre Sister. She was also Night Sister at the Hillingdon County Hospital, Home Sister and Assistant Matron at the Surrey County Sanatorium.

### SUPERINTENDENT.

**Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn.**—Miss Ellen Jones, S.R.N., has been appointed Superintendent Nurse. She was trained in Fever Nursing at the City Hospital, Liverpool, in General Nursing at the Blackburn and East Lancs Royal Infirmary, Blackburn; and in Midwifery at the Sharoe Green Maternity Hospital, Preston. Miss Jones has been Staff Nurse, Charge Nurse, and Sister at the Blackburn Royal Infirmary; Sister at the Lowestoft Hospital; Assistant Matron and Tutor at the Ulster Children's Hospital, Belfast; and Tutor and Home Sister at the General Hospital, Birkenhead.

### ASSISTANT MATRON.

**Botley's Park Colony, Chertsey, Surrey.**—Miss G. M. Burrows, S.R.N., has been appointed Second Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Gloucester County Mental Hospital, Southmead General Hospital, Bristol, and the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport. Miss Burrows has been Staff Nurse at Southmead General Hospital, and Ward Sister and Head Night Sister at the Gloucester County Mental Hospital.

### ASSISTANT MATRON AND SISTER TUTOR.

**St. Margaret's Hospital, Stratton St. Margaret, Swindon.**—Miss Elsie Robinson, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron and Sister Tutor. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Preston, where she was later Sister Tutor and Ward Sister. Miss Robinson has also been Staff Nurse at the General Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne; and Theatre Sister at an Infirmary in North Wales.

### SISTER TUTOR.

**Oldham Royal Infirmary.**—Miss Ruth Bennett, S.R.N., has been appointed Sister Tutor. She was trained at the Royal Hospital, Sheffield, and St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, and has been Ward Sister and Night Sister, and Sister Tutor at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, Assistant Matron and Sister Tutor at the Ashford Hospital, Kent, and Assistant Matron and Sister Tutor at the Horton General Hospital, Banbury.

## THE DEAR ANIMALS.

### ARMY HORSES IN SICKNESS.

The Northern War Correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post and Leeds Mercury* contributes the following interesting information:—

#### Veterinary Corps' Hospital.

The Army, despite wholesale mechanisation, still uses many horses and mules. Charged with their welfare, the Royal Army Veterinary Corps give to the equine members of the Forces care and attention similar to that the R.A.M.C. give to the troops.

A visit to a R.A.V.C. hospital, where sick and injured animals are treated, confirms the belief that horses are very like humans, and that when sick they should be treated as children. The organisation of the hospital is in almost all respects similar to that of a normal hospital dealing with human beings.

Horses sent to the hospital are admitted to a reception ward and immediately subjected to the Mallein test for glanders. This complaint has long been virtually non-existent among horses in this country, but with the importation of horses and mules from North America the risk of infection has increased, and constant vigilance must be exercised lest a contaminated animal should gain entry. Any case of contagious disease is immediately placed in an isolation ward.

From the reception ward the animals are distributed to the medical, surgical and debility wards for treatment. Afterwards the animal spends a period in the discharge ward, undergoing light exercise before transfer to a remount section when fit to take his place in the field force. Every horse unfit for further service is painlessly destroyed and no unfit horse is sold.

The operating theatre, which stands well away from other buildings, is a light and airy structure, spotlessly clean. After being given an anaesthetic the animal is operated on. Cases of pneumonia, taken in time, are invariably cured without serious after effects, new drugs proving particularly effective.

#### Never Lie Down.

Some horses, I was informed, never lie down during the whole of their lives. They always sleep on their feet, and in cases of leg injury this presents a problem. It has been overcome by the use of slings, and very quickly the animal learns to sit in this stout harness as in an armchair, a position he may have to occupy for five or six weeks.

The number of vicious animals with which the hospital has to deal is very small. Occasionally a real "killer" is encountered, a horse which fights with its forefeet like a boxer, and when such an animal refuses to respond to training it has to be destroyed. Shipment of untrained horses from Canada provided much excitement on the voyage and a good deal at the port of disembarkation.

Most of the R.A.V.C. personnel is drawn from jockeys, stable lads, grooms, farmers' sons and veterinary students, accustomed to handling animals, familiar with their vagaries and showing infinite patience.

**From the writings of Lucanus an educated Roman who lived fifty years after Christ, on the faith of the Celtic Races.**

"To you only is given the knowledge or ignorance, which ever it may be, of the gods and the power of Heaven: your dwelling is in the lone heart of the forest. From you we learn that the bourne of man's ghost is not the pale realm of the monarch below. In another world the spirit survives still—death, if your lore be true, is just the passage to enduring life."

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