

points, but of only two years' duration, in which the skill and knowledge required by an efficient nurse could not be attained.

Dr. R. Sydney Davidson, of Manchester, in a letter which closes the correspondence on the subject, writes: "The tyranny of some matrons, the petty restrictions, long hours, and the limited and often inconvenient off-duty, inflicted on nurses have brought almost to bankruptcy a noble profession.

"All the exhortations of Mr. Brown (Minister of Health) will not bring recruits into the Nursing Services unless there is a rapid and effective change of nursing conditions in most hospitals. Dr. Wilks's letter contains too much of the truth to be ignored."

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Personally we know of no "brutal" Matrons and Sisters in hospitals or elsewhere, and those we come into contact with belong to the group of nurses who are in sympathy with freedom and progress.

The relation of these women, devoted as they are to duty, include a sympathetic understanding of the Nursing Staff of which they are the head. Confidence and affection is theirs and life-long friendships are often their reward.

There are, however, others of more autocratic character who have inspired their subordinates with bitter antagonism to hospital life by methods infinitely more insidious and demoralising than any form of savagery.

Frankly, very few women are to be entrusted with unrestricted authority over members of their own sex. Instinctive love of power, if not curbed by generosity of feeling, grows with usage; and the attitude of many Matrons towards freedom of thought and action for the rank and file has paralysed the evolution of mental development and corroded the aspirations of the soul.

After a term of suppression, nothing remains but the shadow of divine inspiration without which the servants of the sick and needy are bereft of initiative.

Suppression of the evolution of the spirit is a subtle method of maintaining absolute power, and the conviction that professional advancement depends upon submission to another's will is an acknowledged principle in many hospitals.

Thus the growth of high qualities of character is suppressed and their entity withered at the root.

One need not be "brutal" to commit murder.—E. G. F.

THE REGISTER OF NURSES.

We have to thank the General Nursing Council for England and Wales for a copy of the "Register of Nurses, 1942," containing the names, qualifications and addresses of nurses registered under the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919.

The Register which yearly contains many additional names, is, this year, issued in three volumes.

The two first volumes contain the names of nurses on the General part of the Register; Volume No. 3, those of nurses on the Supplementary parts—Male, mental, mental defectives, sick children and fever nurses. This arrangement is exceedingly convenient. Considering the interminable difficulty of printing and publishing, and restrictions on paper, the issue of the Register for 1942 is most creditable to all concerned, and is a most valuable work of reference which should be more greatly valued by the public than it is.

"The Register of Nurses" is always received by us with pride and pleasure, and is placed in a special place of honour where it is consulted daily in connection with our work.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.—Miss E. C. Elliott, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, and has been Sister Tutor and Home Sister at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury; Senior Sister Tutor at St. George's Hospital, London; Sister Tutor with charge of the Preliminary Training School, House-keeping Sister and Assistant Matron at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester; and Matron at the North Ormesby Hospital, Middlesbrough.

DEPUTY MATRON.

County Hospital, Farnborough, Kent.—Miss Katrine M. Fogarty, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.B.C.N., has been appointed Deputy-Matron. She was trained at the Fulham Hospital, Hammer-smith, where she was later Ward Sister and Assistant Sister-Tutor. Miss Fogarty has also been Sister-Tutor at St. Mary Abbots Hospital, Marloes Road, London, W., and Assistant Matron and Sister-Tutor at Wembley Hospital, Fairview Avenue, Wembley.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.—Miss D. de M. Warren, S.R.N., S.C.M., D.N., M.B.C.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at Charing Cross Hospital, London, where she was later Staff Midwife, Ward Sister and Night Sister. Miss Warren has also been Sister at Barbados General Hospital; and Assistant Matron and Sister-Tutor at the Putney Hospital, London. She holds the Housekeeping Certificate of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham.

SISTER TUTOR.

Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester.—Miss W. M. McCaffrey, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Sister Tutor. She was trained at the Mater Infirmorum, Belfast; at the Grove Hospital, Tooting; and at the Birchhill Hospital, Rochdale. Miss McCaffrey has been Ward Sister at the Willesden Fever Hospital; Night Sister at the Hillingdon County Hospital, Middlesex; and Sister Tutor at the Louth Infirmary, Louth. She took the Sister Tutor's Course at the Battersea Polytechnic and gained three distinctions.

HOME SISTER.

St. James's Hospital, Leeds.—Miss Mary Whitehead, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Home Sister. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Wigan, and at the Royal Infirmary, Dundee, and has been Staff Nurse at the War Memorial Hospital, Hornsea; Staff Nurse at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax; Theatre Sister at the Maternity Hospital, Birmingham; Ward Sister, Relief Admission Sister (including Home Sister's duties) at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, where Miss Whitehead gained the House-keeping Certificate.

A LOSS TO THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, EDINBURGH.

The death occurred on August 18th in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary of Mr. Henry Maw, O.B.E., who had been Secretary and Treasurer of the Infirmary for the past 13 years where he was held in great esteem.

Mr. Maw had been engaged in hospital administration throughout his career, having served as Assistant Secretary of Bradford Royal Infirmary, and Secretary of the County Hospital, Wakefield, before being appointed secretary and Treasurer of Edinburgh Royal Infirmary in 1929. He was honorary secretary of the South-East Scotland branch of the British Hospitals' Association, of which he was a Fellow, and he had been closely associated with the Department of Health for Scotland in matters of hospital organisation.

His expert knowledge will be greatly missed.

LEGACIES FOR NURSES.

A bequest of £400 an annuity of £1 a week and "everything in her flat" to Nurse Charlotte Clarke, are directions in the will of Mrs. Annie Jackson, of Dartmouth Park Road, N.W.

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