

Nursing Echoes.

* * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.



At the recent meeting of the British Medical Association at Newcastle, Dr. CLOUSTON spoke on "Detached Hospitals in connection with long hours." He is reported in the *British Medical Journal* to have said that in the course of the evolution of the modern asylum for the insane various ideas had taken hold of the medical world, and been carried out. The latest idea was what might be called the "Hospital" idea. Whilst an asylum was essentially a hospital in all its parts and management yet the strictly medical and nursing functions were apt to become subordinate in some of the wards to the idea of safe custody and kindly care. In fact, general medical conditioning of the patients was almost all that was attempted or needed for many of the inmates. There were infirmary wards for the sick, and admission wards for the new cases. Dr. CLOUSTON described how, in reconstructing and reorganising the Royal Asylum at Morningside, about twenty years ago, he had found two old "refractory" wards, detached buildings, and had converted them into "detached Hospitals," making them suitable for treating not only the sick, but also many of the newly admitted cases who were weak and needed much medical care and bodily nursing. He had treated these under specially trained Nurses; they were the weak and the melancholic, the puerperal, lactational, and pregnant cases; the consumptive, the senile, the paralysed, and those who needed special care.

HE claimed as the result of now over 15 years' experience of the system that it had the following advantages: (1) That in these Hospitals the diet could be made very varied, and the routine of the asylum dietary set aside; they had their own kitchens. (2) That the Nursing is more special and more efficient, and the staff of Nurses much more numerous. (3) There is the absence of asylum discipline and routine. (4) That as all the patients there are curable, or need individual nursing and care, it raises the medical and nursing standard for the whole asylum, so the doctors are

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while in the Hospital medical men rather than administrators. (5) They form admirable training schools for the new nursing staff, a very important matter. All the new nursing staff at Morningside are sent there at least three months first, and so get the notion of nursing patients rather than the "keeper" idea. (6) The detachment of the buildings gives distinctiveness of use. They help the doctor to idealise his work to some extent. He advocated great variety of accommodation in each Hospital—namely, dormitory day rooms, dormitories proper, day rooms proper, small three-bedded rooms, and single rooms, and that the Hospital should be one-storeyed. The whole idea has spread in Scotland, so that most of the asylums had built or were building such Hospitals, and the Scottish Lunacy Commissioners had taken up the idea, and were urging its adoption in some form in all asylums under their jurisdiction. He believed the movement had done good to the insane, and formed a part of that great and philanthropic advance in their treatment which had begun 100 years ago.

THE Queen, says:—

"It is only within the last year or two that the healing virtues of the waters of Bad-Nauheim—where H.R.H. the Princess Christian arrived last week—have begun to be recognised by English physicians and patients. The few who do know them have marvellous tales to tell of their curative properties, more especially in cases of rheumatism and gout, and in certain ailments of the heart and spine. Bad-Nauheim—which must not be mistaken for Nauheim, near Darmstadt—is charmingly situated on the north-eastern slopes of the Taunus Mountains, at an elevation of 138 metres above the sea level, and about twenty miles from Frankfort. The air is cool and fresh, and even in the hottest days of July a refreshing breeze was almost always to be found somewhere. Although its warm springs were known to the Romans, it was not till the year 1835 that an advertisement appeared in the German newspapers announcing the opening of this new watering-place. Since then its fame has so rapidly spread in Germany, Russia, and other European countries that five large bath houses are barely sufficient to supply the demand. On one day during the last week of July more baths were taken than on any previous occasion in the history of the little town. These five bath houses contain over 200 separate bath rooms, in which quite an extraordinary variety of baths can be obtained. The new house, No. 5, is probably one of the handsomest and best arranged in Germany. It has two long wings, running east and west, and connected by a spacious and lofty waiting room in the centre. The separate bath rooms are large and airy, and, being furnished with cane chairs and couches, they have a bright appearance, and all semblance of dust is avoided."

"The Grand Ducal Administrators have certainly reason to be proud of this model bath house. The specialty of Nauheim is its sprudel baths, which are filled direct from warm springs so richly charged with carbonic acid that the

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