

MESSRS. DOULTON recently sent a most welcome gift of ninety-one pieces of their lovely ware to the Chelsea Hospital for Women. The artistic effect of the decoration thus afforded is very much admired. All these pieces were slightly damaged, but one must not look a gift-horse in the mouth. And indeed, the imperfections in many cases were so slight that it would have needed a very powerful magnifying glass to find them.

The lockers at this Hospital are admirably arranged, the top drawer being used for the patient's temperature charts and the doctor's notes on their cases. This is a much better plan than having these affixed over the bed where other patients and friends who come on visiting days can take a peep into private histories and note the deviations of temperature, &c. The lower drawers of the lockers are kept for the patient's personal belongings. It is so much easier to keep lockers neat when they are fashioned on the drawer principle rather than on the box or cupboard pattern.

A very rigid rule is observed at the Chelsea Hospital for Women, that the temperature of the wards should never fall below or never exceed 62°, which has been called the gynaecological temperature. To us this temperature feels chilly on wintry days, and most of the convalescent patients sitting up in the delightful easy chairs afforded them in the wards of this Hospital, would agree that two or three more degrees of heat would be very acceptable.

Miss Heather Bigg, the Matron of the Hospital, is most popular, and she is expected to do much towards making the Training School more sought after than has been the case recently. Internal Hospital disputes invariably have the effect of diminishing the number of Nurse-applicants, and the Chelsea Hospital has suffered considerably of late on this account. Miss Heather Bigg comes of a clever family, is herself a broad-minded cultured woman, and has a sister well known for her work in the direction of the labour question and all matters affecting the welfare of women.

Surgically speaking, "hot water and cleanliness" may be said to be the watchwords of the wards. Boiled and hot water largely

takes the place, in the operating theatre, of antiseptics and lotions. Even all the cold water used for diluting or cooling lotions has been previously boiled. Dr. Fenton's douche is one of the interesting specialties of the theatre. He invented it, and its uniqueness consists in the fact that it is so arranged as to register the amount of fluid injected, and the temperature thereof. It has also a very large nozzle.

New plans have been drawn out for the Nurses' Home, to include separate bedrooms. At present some of the Staff are lodged outside the Hospital, a plan which is always inconvenient and uncomfortable.

A verandah for the patients has a somewhat dismal outlook into a large disused cemetery. But as someone on the verandah remarked, "You know it isn't quite so bad as it seems, because by looking *quite* over the graves and pretending not to see them, we get quite a nice view of the Chelsea Ladies' Cycling Club, and the practising amuses the patients."

A GOOD deal has been made in some of the papers of the resignation of several Nurses at the Bow Infirmary, owing to the new regulations with regard to training, and the adoption of the three years standard. In reality it is what always happens when reforms are instituted in Hospitals. When "the old order changeth" there are always a goodly number of "oldest inhabitants" who resent new things and who feel unequal to the demands made on them by a new programme. It is always unpleasant to lose some of these old officers, but the Matron and Medical Superintendent who are inaugurating the new system must be congratulated and upheld, even though it entail the loss to the Institution of some old workers.

MISS CARTWRIGHT, the Matron of St. George's Infirmary, appealed to the Board for more accommodation for her Nurses, with the result that she has obtained for their use a recreation and sitting-room and the promise of a new bath. At present there is only one bath for thirty-five Nurses.

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