

when he touched it. There was a swelling on it about the size of a pigeon's egg.

Dr. John Gordon, medical attendant, Aberdeen, and Inspector Forbes, of the City Police, spoke to the nature of the bruises on Gray's body. An attendant who was present at the punishment of Gray denied that the brush had been used. The Sheriff held that it had not been proved that the brush had been used, or that undue violence had been employed in tying Gray's hands and feet. With regard to the strap there had been unnecessary violence. When a man's hands and feet were tied it was surely unnecessary to use a strap. He was inclined to look upon the offence not so much as a criminal assault as an error of judgment. It must be understood, however, that keepers must exercise more forbearance towards inmates, and the Sheriff dismissed King with an admonition, expressing the hope that the case would be a warning to him and to other attendants in lunatic wards. The warning would have been accentuated if some punishment had been awarded to the man who tied a lunatic, hand and foot and then beat him. The moral which attendants will draw from this case appears to us to be that they can act in a like manner with impunity.

A Diet Sister.

THE Hospital Ship, *Relief*, which is now conveying back the wounded to New York, is excellently organized; and to one nurse, Miss Mary Brown, one of the volunteer nurses sent through the Woman's National War Relief Association, to the front, has been assigned the position of special diet nurse. Miss Brown's account of life on board is most interesting. The patients come to the ship with absolutely no belongings other than a sheet, and after a bath are put to bed, ready for the doctor's visit. After this, her own duties begin, and she goes round to inquire what the patients would like to eat. Miss Brown says it is rather odd to go with gruel or medicine from one cot to another. The men open their mouths like so many birds. Oranges, lemons, eggs, chickens, clam broth, fruit jelly, and water biscuits, are all favourite foods. The carbonating apparatus has, Miss Brown says, saved many lives. The nurses are on duty from six o'clock in the morning until 7.30 at night. Miss Brown every day visits the nurse and doctor in charge of each ward, and learns from them the patients' diets. She then reports to the kitchen, and personally superintends the appointments and distribution of the trays. The appointment of a trained nurse, specially to superintend the diet department, is an excellent arrangement, as too often the patients' diets, which play so important a part in their recovery are a secondary consideration.

Nursing Echoes.

* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



In response to a widely expressed wish, we propose to print in full the three first papers read at the Annual Conference of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, which we gave at the time of the Conference in a very condensed form. Miss Mollett's paper appears this week.

In the *Nurses' Journal* for this month we find the following intentionally misleading statement in reference to the Sir Julian Goldsmid Home of Rest for Nurses:—"It is now no longer officially connected with the Association, and is open, as such a home must necessarily be to ensure success, to all nurses."

THE writer of this article must be perfectly well aware that the Home of Rest *never has been officially connected with the Royal British Nurses' Association*, and that it is, and *always has been* open to all desirable nurses whether they are members of that Association or not.

AMONGST the schemes which we desired to see the Association carry out was the organization of some such Home of Rest for its members. But as usual, schemes which were for the benefit of the nurse members, and which incurred any real work were, from the foundation of the Royal British Nurses' Association, left to the few members of the Executive willing to work. So that, failing the support of that body as a whole, we suggested and carried out, with the generous financial support of Mrs. Lionel Lucas, and with the practical help of the present Treasurer, and a few earnest Matrons, the organization of the Home on its present lines. Under the able Matronship of Mrs. McIntyre, it has proved a true home to hundreds of nurses from all over the Kingdom. The Home of Rest has been, and now will, doubtless, always remain totally unconnected officially with the Royal British Nurses' Association, or any other body. It can manage its own affairs very successfully.

In the London County Council Report of the Asylums' Committee, just issued, several pages are devoted to "payments for special services." At

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