

compassionate interest which they have manifested in dealing with the patients under their charge. The scale of dietary is a very liberal one, and the diet itself is described as of a superior character. The scale, however, is not of a hard-and-fast description, if the phrase may be used, for the medical officer has absolute power "without any restriction whatever" to vary it to the advantage of the patients.

Sooner or later no doubt a company will be formed to organise and build a thoroughly efficient Nursing Hotel, the makeshift houses now adapted to the purpose of nursing well-to-do patients, with few exceptions, having been proved quite inadequate to meet the requirements of modern medical and nursing treatment. In Chicago eighty leading medical men have subscribed a sum of £80,000 for the purpose of building a great hospital eleven storeys in height, which, besides being equipped with every luxury for the patients, will include sumptuous suites of rooms, furnished as in a high-class hotel, for the accommodation of friends of the inmates. The amount subscribed is exclusive of the cost of the site and equipment of the building.

We observe that an action is pending between Miss Reid, the late Matron of the Leancoil Hospital, Forres, and Dr. Adam, a member of the medical staff of the institution. Miss Reid attributes the termination of her engagement with the institution to statements made by Dr. Adam, and has consequently placed her affairs in the hands of her solicitors.

The graduation exercises of nurses in the western hemisphere are always made the occasion of a very pleasurable function. Nine graduates recently received the diplomas and badges of the General Hospital, Toronto, when Mr. John L. Blaikie, President of the Board of Trustees, delivered an address, and Miss Snively, the Lady Superintendent, presented a report of the nurse-training school. The report stated that it was now twenty-one years since the establishment of the institution. Within that time 355 graduates had left the school. There were sixty of these now in positions of responsibility in other hospitals and institutions. During the year twenty-eight other hospitals and institutions applied for graduates to fill important positions. During the past year there had been 658 applications from intending pupils. The demand for skilled nurses, Miss Snively said, had been steadily on the increase. Miss Mowat then pinned the badges on each of the new graduates, and Dr. O'Reilly presented their diplomas, after which the nurses and their guests spent a most pleasurable social evening.

The Hospital World.

A HOSPITAL TRUST.

We are glad to note, at last, the formation of a society of hospital officials—the Hospital Officers Association—which has apparently some life in it. Conference between the officials of different institutions must be productive of good result, both by increasing mutual understanding and good feeling in those engaged in the same work, and also by providing a means for the discussion of questions of common interest and difficulty.

Last week Mr. Adrian Hope, Secretary of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, gave an address before a meeting of this Society, at which many representatives of the large London hospitals were present. The title of the paper was "A Forecast of the Future of the London Hospitals." With much that he said we are in cordial agreement, and the scope of his address is so important that we propose to discuss it at some length.

THE FACTOR OF THE FUTURE.

The great factor of the future will, Mr. Hope thinks, be found in the King's Fund, which will gradually attract to itself all the large donations and many of the small ones, and become the source from which the hospitals will draw their fixed incomes. As the Fund becomes more powerful financially, so it will become more powerful also in matters of administration, so that eventually it will form a central board for London hospitals which will not only be able to speak with great authority, but will compel attention from the careless public, and will be able to enforce desirable improvements.

AMALGAMATION.

Mr. Hope looks forward to the time when there will be an attempt at amalgamation between some of the smaller hospitals, thus reducing the cost of management.

CONVALESCENT HOSPITALS.

He also is convinced that many hospitals will eventually consider the question of selling their present sites and of building more suitable institutions in less expensive positions. He believes in the development of convalescent hospitals in the country, and that in future, instead of having one bed in the country for every ten in London, the latter will equal, if not exceed, those of the metropolis.

CO-OPERATIVE SUPPLY.

He regards as the possible result of a central board the establishment of some system of co-operative supply, by which the London hospitals, instead of each buying sufficient for their own requirements, will derive their supplies from a central source, which will distribute daily the provisions, drugs, and compounds required.

We agree with Mr. Hope that the donations of

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