

American Nursing World.

An excellent work has been inaugurated by the Directors of Bellevue Hospital, New York, who have engaged Miss Wadley, a trained nurse who is reported to be eminently suited for the purpose, to look after and befriend all patients who are discharged from the hospital, so that no patient can leave the institution homeless and without resource. Miss Wadley, who has her office in the hospital, visits the wards, learns which patients are due to be discharged, and then finds out whether they have friends or homes to go to. If not, then it is her duty to make some provision for them by putting them in charge of some society or sending them to Homes or Shelters. Miss Wadley anticipates that great good will result from the work. What nurse has not felt a pang as the ward door of one of our great hospitals has closed upon a patient just wooed back to life by the medical skill, nursing care, and good dietary, which are supplied with a generous hand by the modern hospital, who is returning to take up life once more with impaired health under the conditions and privations of those living on the poverty line.

Legal Matters.

A FATAL DOSE OF CHLORAL.

The details concerning the sudden death of a Brighton invalid who travelled down with his nurse to a little place in South Wales, have been reported at length in the daily press. The important thing from a nursing point of view is that the landlady said there was nothing in the deceased's bedroom at the time of his death out of which he could have drunk, except a small bottle of whisky and water which the nurse had mixed for him. The nurse also said she had mixed this and that it contained nothing but these two ingredients. She brought absolutely nothing in the way of medicine or drugs with her.

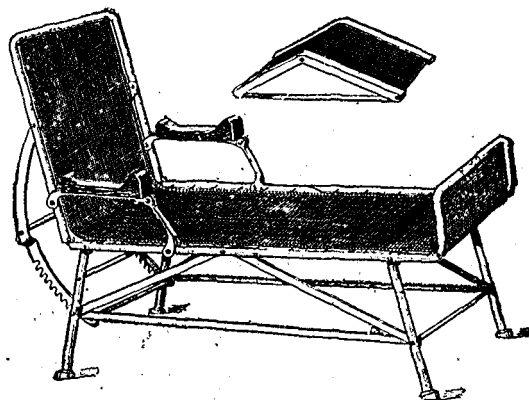
An expert examination of the contents of the stomach was made and evidence was given to prove that at least forty grains of chloral had been taken by the deceased very recently, this being a fatal dose.

The Coroner in summing-up said that if the jury accepted the medical evidence then the nurse had not told the whole truth.

Where was the chloral obtained and how was it administered? The patient was in charge of the nurse and it was her business to know. It should have been impossible for him to obtain chloral or any other drug, much less to take it without her knowledge.

Practical Points.

We have pleasure in directing the Lloyd-Smith attention to the Lloyd-Smith Sanatorium Chair. Sanatorium Chair, which was designed and modified by Dr. Lloyd-Smith, Medical Superintendent of the Manchester Hospital for Consumption, Bowdon, Cheshire, after that used at Belitz, Berlin. Dr. Lloyd-Smith has found the ordinary cane lounge unsatisfactory from many points of view, one being that the seats or horizontal portions of chairs are all of the same length, and curve so that tall as well as short patients find them uncomfortable and inconvenient. Cane chairs are also costly, inasmuch as they are continually being repaired, as seats and backs sag and give way. The Lloyd-Smith chair has a framework of tubular iron fitted with a wire mattress. The back, which is adjustable at any angle, and the seat are made in one



piece. The special point about the chair is its adaptability to people of different height by means of the knee support which travels along the seating. Dr. Lloyd-Smith suggests that no mattress shall be used with the chair, but thick felt material, such as that used for stage purposes by acrobats and others. This is easily rolled up and carried indoors at night and is sterilisable. The wedge-shaped pillow or knee support, which should be of the same width as the frame, is easily slid along this thus making the chair adjustable to persons of any height. When the adjustable back support is lowered to the horizontal position the chair can be used as a couch bed, it is also utilised as a stretcher.

The chair is made by Messrs. Isaac Chorlton & Co., 17, Blackfriars Street, Manchester, who are the sole licensees and manufacturers.

A Simple Method of Generating Formaldehyde Gas.

A simple method of generating formaldehyde gas for the disinfection of rooms has, says the *American Journal of Nursing*, recently been advocated by the Board of Health of Illinois. It is to be recommended especially to nurses on private duty, on account of its promptness of action, its inexpensiveness and its simplicity.

The gas is generated by pouring a formaldehyde solution over the crystals of potassium permanganate

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)