

Those who know anything of the class of cases received at the hospital know well the great care that is necessary, how easily they contract a chill at all times, and how especially liable they are to suffer from shock after operation. It is found, however, that this tendency to shock can be greatly minimised by careful nursing; and the Matron, Miss Florence E. Furley, lays special emphasis on the necessity for warmth. All the major operation cases are supplied with hot water bottles, not only after, but prior to the operation. Each patient is clothed in a gamgee jacket, as well as in flannel, on going up to the theatre; the jacket is subsequently discarded by being cut away an inch at a time, so that the patient may be gradually accustomed to doing without it. In the wards the patients all wear warm flannel jackets, and every attention is paid to their food, a well-cooked and varied diet being provided for both patients and nursing staff.

In regard to the nurses, all must have had some experience before being placed on the staff. There is a Sister on duty during the day, and at night the staff nurses, all of whom have been thoroughly trained in a good general hospital, are in charge. It is evident that the Matron is an enthusiast as regards the work, believing that the hospital has a unique mission in the relief of suffering. Miss Furley was trained at the West London Hospital, Hammersmith, and afterwards worked for five years at St. Mark's Hospital, in the City Road. She speaks most warmly of the co-operation and loyal support of both nursing and domestic staff, and of the smoothness with which the domestic machinery works. It is more than probable that the staff would say that the happy relations which evidently exist in the institution are due to the wise rule and tactful administration of their Matron.

In addition to the free cases some paying patients are received at the rate of 10s. a day, and this privilege is much appreciated.

In the wards one is struck with the cheerful atmosphere and with the evident contentment of the patients with their surroundings.

There are two beds for women, and in the small ward allotted to them one found one of the patients, who was convalescent from a severe operation, mending hospital linen, *con amore*. She had been in other hospitals, but there never was one, she believes, like St. Peter's. "It's a real God's acre, that's what it is," she says, enthusiastically, and with delightful irrelevancy. In a hospital of this kind there is a large attendance of outpatients, the number of new out-patients last year being 3,569 and of attendances 86,939.

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The work of constructing the new pathological department at St. Bartholomew's Hospital is now practically completed. It is hoped that this important addition to the rebuilding scheme will be ready for opening by the end of the year. The new premises, which have been erected at a cost of about £30,000, immediately adjoin the School of Medicine, opened thirty years ago. They are only part of the scheme decided upon some years ago, which included a new outpatients' and casualty department, the foundation stone of which was laid four years ago by the King. It is probable that the Prince of Wales will open the new department.

Now that all the requirements of the medical school have been so lavishly provided for, it is high time the Committee turned their serious attention to the erection of a home for the nursing staff, so urgently needed for the past quarter of a century. The Bart's nurses' quarters are quite unworthy of the hospital, and everyone connected with it should be thoroughly ashamed of them.

The report of the Local Government Board for Ireland for the year ending March 31, 1908, states that further arrangements have been made in both the Belfast districts and County Cork for the reception of consumptive patients in the hospitals. In County Dublin a scheme for a Sanatorium for Consumptives has been drawn up and sanctioned by Parliament. These results are largely due to the activity of the Women's National Health Association.

In aid of the Dumb Friends' League Mrs. Moss-Cockle gave a garden party at Clewer Park, Windsor, last Saturday afternoon. During the afternoon a meeting was held in a marquee. The Mayor of Windsor, who presided, alluded to the splendid work done by the Society in providing an animals' hospital for sick and injured animals of the poor, ambulances for injured horses, shelters for stray cats and dogs, and the education of children in the humane treatment of animals. Bishop Barry and Mrs. Albert Bradshaw delivered addresses.

All information relating to the Moral Education Congress, which opens at the Imperial Institute on September 25, can be obtained from St. G. Lane Fox Pitt, Esq., Cedar House, Glebe Place, Chelsea.

The cholera in Russia is assuming alarming dimensions, especially in the eastern provinces. The spread of the disease is mainly due to the insanitary homes and dirty habits of the peasants, and also to their hostility to doctors, owing to their extreme ignorance. Recently, a crowd attacked the hospital at Astrakhan, shouting that the doctors were poisoning their patients. The crowd made an attempt to destroy the hospital, and the police had great difficulty in checking them.

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