

vising Nurse. Regular weekly lessons have been started, and a course of lectures by the Visiting Physicians is promised. The young men have been put into washable uniform coats, and under Miss Decker's tuition the nursing of the patients has been considerably improved, the wards are kept in better order, and many minor improvements inaugurated.

"At present the school consists of 22 men in training, a chief nurse, a supervising nurse, and a superintendent. The school is responsible for the nursing of twelve wards on the male side of the hospital, with a daily average of about 350 patients.

"When graduated, the nurses of the school charge usually 5.00 dols. per day at private nursing, and there is a limited demand for their services. Many of them make nursing a stepping stone to the medical profession."

\* \* \*

We wonder if these male graduates are as particular concerning "time off" and late hours as male probationers have been found to be in this country? If so, we fear it will be long before they compete with their more long-suffering and less exacting colleagues in cap and apron.

## Medical Matters.

### CONDIMENTS AND ANTISEPTICS.



Attention has been drawn to the value of mustard as a deodorant. It is well known, of course, that the essential oil has a most pungent smell, and it has been found that the ordinary flour of mustard removes altogether the most foetid odours from the hands after *post-mortem* examinations, or after contact with malignant wounds and other foul-surfaces. The fact is well worth keeping in mind, because, if the mustard be rapidly washed off, the skin is not affected by the customary congestion, while the deodorant and disinfectant effects are obtained. In these columns, some months ago, we called attention to the fact that in South Africa it is customary to use treacle as a treatment for severe burns, the patient having the affected surface covered thickly with this homely remedy, and then bound round with bandages, the dressing perhaps not being touched for several days. It is corroborated by those who have used it in this country, that the first effect of this treatment is to relieve almost immediately the severe pain of the burn, and that healing is more rapidly obtained under this application than when the ordinary remedies are used. A scientific explanation for the fact is now given, by the discovery that although diluted solutions

of sugar are excellent media for cultivating bacteria, these will not grow in concentrated solutions of syrups. It has been often said that the closest connection exists between cookery and Nursing, and if ordinary condiments like mustard and sugar are to be employed in Nursing in the future, the connection between the kitchen and the ward will become still more intimate and necessary.

### THE USE OF BONE-MARROW.

Extensive experiments are now being made in various countries as to the effects produced upon the organism by the administration of extracts of various animal substances, and results are reported which would lead to the belief that in this system of treatment there is still much to be learnt and much good to be attained. An American contemporary recently published some interesting results derived from the use of extract of bone marrow, which was made with glycerine from chopped sheep's ribs. In anæmia, for which the remedy has been especially recommended, the experimenter found that on the whole, in ordinary cases, the formation of red corpuscles increased to a rapid and marked extent under this system of treatment, but still to a less extent than was obtained under the ordinary treatment by preparations of iron. The conclusion which was reached was that in anæmia the benefit produced arose from the quantity of iron which was contained in the bone-marrow itself. We imagine that the most beneficial results of this remedy would be gained in cases suffering from nerve or brain disorders.

## Reflections

### FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Duke of Cambridge will preside at the Biennial Festival of the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Albany Memorial, Queen Square, to take place at the Hôtel Métropole, on April 2nd.

SIR RALPH THOMPSON, K.C.B., has been elected Chairman of the Weekly Board of the Middlesex Hospital, *vice* Lord Sandhurst, who has retired, upon his appointment as Governor of Bombay.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at the Mansion House on Wednesday the 13th inst., at 3 p.m., at which the Lord Mayor will take the chair, sup-

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