

under which the South African nurses can claim this reduction appear to be a little arbitrary. Only a nurse or a nursing pupil of a hospital is entitled to it, and this rule appears to be somewhat hard on individual nurses, as the following instance will show:—A nurse leaving a hospital after two years' service was taken ill during the discharge of her duties, and remained a patient in the hospital for a few weeks, and although those "going home finally" are allowed to travel at the reduced rate, a reduction was not allowed to this nurse because there had been a break between the termination of her engagement and her home-going. It seems a pity that when the railway companies are so liberal in their terms that there should not be a little more elasticity in their application. Private Nurses may not avail themselves of the advantages afforded by the reduced rate, which appears to us quite just.

The Hospital World.

SURGERY SYSTEMS.

THE LONDON HOSPITAL.

THE Receiving Room at this hospital impresses one as bright and cheerful, and this effect is enhanced by a dado of tiles all round the room, which adds to its appearance, and is, of course, also most cleanly, and easily washed. The nursing staff of the receiving room consists of a Sister, three day nurses, and a night nurse. The night nurse leaves a written report each night for the Sister. This staff is distinct from that of the out-patient department, which has a Sister of its own, as well as three nurses on the surgical and four on the medical side. One feature of this hospital is the provision made for infectious cases. Two little rooms, one of which is reserved for cases of scarlet fever and the other for cases of diphtheria, seem all that can be desired for this purpose. They are cleaned and sulphured daily. There are no beds provided for ordinary casualty cases, but the Sister seemed to think that it would be a great convenience to have them. The cupboards in the receiving room are excellently arranged and in order, especially one which is reserved for antidotes, which is evidently the Sister's joy and pride. The little tables, also, with white inlaid tiles, would be an acquisition to any hospital. The tin dressing boxes are well stocked with cut dressings, and to judge by the stacks of boracic lint and pink jaconet of various shapes and sizes, a large proportion of the inhabitants of Whitechapel must need eye fomentations. Surgical stores are kept in black japanned boxes, on which the Sister has painted their various names in white paint. In the out-patient de-

partment there is provision made for giving medicated baths. By far the most common, I was told, are sulphur baths. The male patients are bathed by porters, the female by nurses. A notice displayed at intervals, "Beware of pickpockets," struck one as odd. One is not accustomed to look upon the out-patient department of a hospital as a happy or lucrative hunting ground for thieves, but the Sister assured me it was most necessary. Other notices in Hebrew characters testify to the thought taken for Jewish patients. The out-patient department is most interesting, and has a cared-for appearance, which one does not always find in out-patient rooms. Space fails me to do more than mention the table in the dentists' room, which seems to contain all that the heart of a dentist can possibly desire, and the refreshment department, which is under the care of an old patient, where a cup of tea and a bun are to be had for a penny. After being most hospitably entertained to lunch by the Sisters, I came away with a very pleasant recollection of all that I had seen.

PROGRESS AT THE LONDON.

The public have heard with the greatest satisfaction of the appointment of the Hon. Sydney Holland to the chairmanship of the London Hospital. This gentleman has, by the good work which he has already done as Chairman of the Poplar Hospital, and by the keen interest which he has shown in all that concerns hospital management, won the confidence of the public. This confidence is grounded in the knowledge that Mr. Holland has been at much pains to acquaint himself with the details of hospital management, and is well versed in modern methods and modern needs. There is ever reason to believe, therefore, that Mr. Holland will prove to be possessed of the same intimate acquaintance with the management of the London Hospital as he has in the past acquired by conscientious and painstaking work, that of the other institutions with which he has been connected, and that the reforms which are still necessary at the London Hospital will be realised and grappled with, with all Mr. Holland's customary vigour and capacity. Evidently, therefore, such reforms may safely be left in the hands of this gentleman, who will doubtless effect them with the least possible amount of friction which is compatible with thoroughness; and the heckling policy which chooses the present moment to criticise the London Hospital seems a particularly infelicitous one, especially when such criticism demands an entire *volte face* upon the part of the critic which savours of personal pique.

In former years the NURSING RECORD has had occasion to point out the need of reform in

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