

While the above changes are being made, "Cotton" and "Davis" will undergo reconstruction, and those quaint survivals of old hospital architecture will disappear. They will be raised and made to resemble the wards beneath them, being squarer in shape and admitting of the all-important cross ventilation. On top of them again will be built additional accommodation for the nurses. We presume ample lift accommodation will be provided.

The resignation by Professor Ogston, of the position of Senior Surgeon of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, will be received with regret not only by the Committee of that institution, but by a much wider circle. Dr. Ogston has been connected with the Royal Infirmary for thirty years, and his reputation as a surgeon, as well as his personal popularity, have drawn patients to the hospital from far and near. The Chairman, Colonel Allardyce, reported to the directors that on receipt of a letter from Professor Ogston, asking permission to retire he had written to him, expressing the opinion (in which he felt sure that the whole Board would concur) that the loss to the infirmary would be a public calamity. The directors in accepting Professor Ogston's resignation placed upon the minutes their great appreciation of the invaluable services which he had rendered to the suffering poor of Aberdeen and the north of Scotland.

A course of eight lectures on Medical Relief will be given at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W. (Dorset Street entrance), on Fridays, at 4.30 p.m. October 21, Mr. C. S. Loch, Secretary to the London Charity Organization Society, on the "Growth of Medical Charities." October 28th, Dr. L. A. Hawkes, M.D. Edin., late Resident Medical Officer, Metropolitan Dispensary, and Royal National Hospital for Consumption, on "The Dispensary." November 4th, Mr. Clinton Dent, F.R.C.S., Surgeon, St. George's Hospital; Senior Surgeon, Belgrave Hospital for Children, on "The Hospital." November 11th, Dr. T. D. Savill, M.D. Lond., late Medical Superintendent, Paddington Infirmary, etc., on "The Poor-law Infirmary." November 18th, Dr. Rayner, M.D. Aberd., late Superintendent, Male Department, Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, etc., on "The Lunatic Asylum." November 25th, Miss Amy Hughes, late Superintendent, Metropolitan and National Nursing Association; Superintendent Nurses' Co-operation, on "District Nursing." December 2nd, Mr. F. J. P. Neison, F.S.S., F.I.A., Author of *The Sickness and Mortality of Members of Friendly Societies*, on "Sick Insurance." December 9th, Dr. J. B. Hurry, M.D., etc., late Surgeon, Reading Dispensary, etc., on "The Self-Supporting Dispensary and District Nursing Association." Sir William H. Broadbent, Bart., M.D., will take the chair and give a short introductory address at the first lecture, which will be free. The eight lectures will form a single course. The charge will be 5s. for the course, or 1s. for a single lecture. The first lecture will be free. The syllabus, with further particulars and tickets, can be obtained from Miss Janes, National Union of Women Workers, 59, Berners Street, W.; Miss Yeatman, Greyladies, Blackheath Hill, S.E.; Miss Sewell, Women's University Settlement, 44 Nelson Square, Southwark; and from Mrs. G. F. Hill, Hon. Secretary, Joint Lectures Committee, 19, Park Mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.

## Items of Interest.

Messrs. S. H. Rosenthal, and Dr. S. J. von Kourocki have, for the last three years, been working together in Berlin, endeavouring to discover the means of making a non-poisonous match which would strike anywhere. Mr. Rosenthal has now found a paste which is non-poisonous, which is readily ignited on any rough surface, and which gives off no fumes or smell. The discovery is a most important one, and already, though it was only made on the 1st of last month, provisional patents have been taken out for the United Kingdom, and eleven foreign countries. The matches can be manufactured as cheaply as the ordinary ones, and by the same machinery and staff, there is no excuse, therefore, for any manufacturer of matches to continue to use the deadly yellow phosphorus.

DESCRIPTIONS of the death throes of one drowning have often been described by those brought back to consciousness; now Mr. Edward Marshall tells in the *Cosmopolitan*, of some sensations of being shot, he writes:

"I felt a blow in the back. It was neither violent nor painful. It was as though a friend had given me a light blow in play. I fell down. To my surprise I could not get up.

"I had interrupted the course of a Mauser bullet.

"Those who contemplate going to the war, and those in the army who have not yet been shot, will be pleased to know that there is little pain immediately following a wound.

"The first persons to come to me were the Red Cross Nurses, to bandage me, and then a surgeon handled me over, and told me I had only a few minutes to live. I believed him. His statement seemed to produce as little effect on me mentally as did the Mauser bullet physically. The mental and physical dulness and indifference must be attributed, I suppose, to the shock produced by the Mauser bullet.

"I saw a good many men wounded, and about six killed very near me. Eight men a dozen yards away from me, all dropped down one after another, within sixty seconds. They fell close together in a quiet heap. There was not a jump, not a scream. I heard one man say in a low voice, "I am hit." The others said nothing.

"It is a fact that every man struck by a Mauser bullet, no matter how slightly, or on what part of the body, drops instantly. It seems as though the enormous force behind the bullet administers to the nerves, wherever struck, a shock like to that from a powerful electric battery.

"We could not wave our arms or make any other movement, but we could talk. One chap said, "Let's sing a song to show those fellows we aren't dead." So we sang the "Star Spangled Banner," and another tune with a good deal of the tune left out.

"Pretty soon I began to feel as if red-hot needles were being stuck, slowly and deliberately, into my spine, from one end to the other. This part of my experience was not pleasant, and does not call for extended description. I have learned since that the burning sensation was due to small splinters of bone sticking in the spinal cord.

"At this moment I am lying, cool and comfortable, in St. Luke's Hospital."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)