

individuals in providing the necessary funds. The isolation and treatment of the consumptive poor is of importance in checking the spread of tuberculosis and lessening the mortality therefrom; but the provision of funds presents difficulties. It is suggested that the Government, as representing the nation, should contribute, since the matter is one closely affecting the national health and welfare. The local governing bodies should take their share in a measure which will tend to stamp out tuberculosis, and which must fall into line with the organisation for preventing the spread of other infectious diseases; but additional financial help will be necessary, and there is no object more worthy of the charitable contributions of philanthropic institutions or individuals.

On similar lines, an American physician has recently published an account of the first State Hospital for Tuberculosis in America. This is the Massachusetts State Hospital for Consumptive and Tuberculous Patients, in Rutland, in the centre of that State. The site is eleven hundred and sixty feet above the sea, and sheltered by a hill to the north, which is about a hundred feet higher. The Sanatorium accommodates 175 patients. It is in detached wards of one storey, arranged like the spokes of a wheel, all leading at one end to a long corridor which connects them as the rim or tyre of the wheel. Only hopeful cases are admitted, and those who do not show improvement in from four to six weeks are discharged. Dr. Meyer strongly advocates a State sanatorium for consumptives for New York. It is interesting, as showing the widespread feeling in favour of State sanatoria, to find that the establishment of such an institution is also suggested for South Australia.

ISOLATION FOR SORE THROAT.

A recent writer has insisted that every case of sore throat should be carefully inspected, inasmuch as many cases which were not properly isolated have displayed the sequelæ of diphtheria. He of course admits that many patients with Loeffler's bacillus are not necessary diphtheritic, since the germ is known to exist in the mucus of perfectly healthy persons. It is common knowledge, however, that an apparently simple sore throat may give rise to very grave results. In fact, no one can prophesy where or how a tonsillitis will end. And as there can be no doubt that some sore throats are of an epidemic infectious although non-diphtheritic nature, the isolation of any doubtful case would be a harmless, and might be a valuable preventative, measure.

The "Maine" Nurses.

A CHAT WITH MR. ELLSWORTH, MR. SPEER, AND MR. VALLANCE.

MISS HIBBARD and the Sisters who are deputed to nurse the sick and wounded on board the *Maine*, have been with us for some time, and we now feel quite familiar with them and their distinctive uniforms. But with the large contingent of male nurses more recently arrived, who are also to nurse on the *Maine*, few of us have, as yet, had any opportunity of becoming familiar. They were expected at the Matrons' Council "At Home" last week, as they had intimated, through Miss Hibbard, that they would be pleased to be there; but, unfortunately, the invitation went astray and, consequently, their colleagues in this country did not have the pleasure of meeting them. As the Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council, therefore, I called upon them, subsequently, to express our regret, and I was deputed by the Editor to obtain information concerning the training of male nurses in the United States, as being of great interest to the readers of the NURSING RECORD. We have, at present, in this country, no training school for male nurses and, therefore, the methods adopted in the United States, and the results attained, are of extreme interest. These nurses are graduates of the Mills Training School connected with the Bellevue Hospital, New York. All the male patients at the Bellevue (about 500 in number) are nursed by undergraduates of the Mills Training School, the number of nurses in the School being about 75. The School was donated to the City of New York by D. O. Mills, the father of Mrs. Whitelaw Reid. There is a comprehensive two years' course, and those who satisfactorily complete it, and pass their examinations, are certificated. After graduation, they most usually become private nurses. The Superintendent of the School is Mrs. Willard. "Do you like a woman for your Superintendent?" I enquired, "or would you prefer a man?" "That depends upon the woman," came the quick answer from all three nurses, "we wouldn't swop off Mrs. Willard for any man we know. Her fine executive ability is marvellous, and she has a knack of keeping perfect order amongst 75 men, varying in age from 25 to 30." "How does she manage it?" I enquire. "Ah, that is her secret—we don't know, but she does it." "And," added Mr. Ellsworth, "she doesn't tackle one in gloves. She can make a man feel like a three cent. piece." And then there were more protestations that the Bellevue graduates would not change Mrs. Willard for any Superintendent in the world. "She stands

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