

THE South Eastern Hospital (New Cross) Magazine is, we believe, the first of the hospitals under the Metropolitan Asylums Board to start a publication of its own. It is called *Notes and Notices*, and is an unassuming publication, which will, doubtless, increase in importance as it becomes more widely known amongst the staff of the hospital, and, in consequence, more popular. Various items of nursing interest are chronicled, and we notice an article on the nursing of laryngeal diphtheria, by a member of the medical staff, which should be of great interest not only to members of this hospital staff, but to all nurses, for the disease is one which any nurse may be called upon to nurse at any moment, and within the last few years science has made great strides in the treatment of this disease, and it is important to be acquainted with the latest treatment.

At the last meeting of the Chelsea Board of Guardians, it was reported by the Infirmary Committee that the Matron of the Workhouse Infirmary asked to be allowed leave at week ends. It was understood that she made this request because the Medical Superintendent had been granted this privilege. The Committee recommended that Miss de Pledge's departure at week ends be not permitted, and the Guardians unanimously endorsed this view.

THE Chelsea Guardians are to be congratulated on taking this line. There can be no question that the Matron should be accessible from Saturday to Monday; and that, if she were to hand over the reins of office to a subordinate, the work must evidently suffer. No one acquainted with hospital organization could suppose that both the chief officials of the institution could be away at the end of each week without detriment to the smooth working of the establishment. If the Matron is not at her post early on Monday morning to receive reports, and to start the week's work on its course, disorganization, and, consequently, the discomfort of the sick, must ensue.

MRS. MARY A. LIVERMORE, an honorary member of the Massachusetts Army Nurse Association, which consists of old nurses who nursed through the civil war, in issuing an appeal on behalf of a fair for the funds of the Association, states that this Society is managed by a small body of earnest women, who, with small means themselves, have assumed the care of their more unfortunate sisters. They allow no army nurse to be sent to the poorhouse. They care for some in hospitals, and board others in private

families. They furnish nurses to those requiring them, and pay a small monthly stipend to many who are provided with homes, but lack everything else.

ALL these women entered the service during the civil war because there was an urgent demand for them, and, with rare exceptions, without compensation. Some were broken down at the close of the war with illnesses caused by exposure, hard work, bad food, malaria and hospital fever, and have never regained their health.

THEY have learned such economy that a comparatively small sum is sufficient for their needs, and if the Army Nurse Association were sure of \$1,500 as the net result of their fair, they would be entirely relieved from anxiety for another year.

WE are glad to note in Boston the formation of a new Club for Nurses, of which the head quarters are in Warren Chambers, 419, Boylston Street. Boston nurses have not, so far, organized to maintain a free Registry, to secure calls for its members, and to aid physicians, and the public generally to obtain competent and reliable nurses. The Club has now been in existence for seven months, and has been a great success. One point we are sorry to note—namely, that the President is a medical man. Surely American nurses are capable of managing their own affairs. It is, however, a matter for congratulation that this registry should have been started, for it may be hoped that the days of an existing registry are now numbered. This is controlled by a Medical Society which derives large profits from it annually, which profits are devoted to the replenishment of the Society's library. Such a condition makes us draw our breath even in this country, and here we are commonly accredited with a greater endurance concerning the manipulation of our affairs than would be tolerated in America.

THE New South Wales Trained Nurses' Association is already enlarging its borders. Many nurses from other colonies are already joining the Society, and it has been decided, in consequence, to change the name to that of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association, in order to include the members outside the Colony. It is satisfactory evidence of the need which is felt for nursing organization in Australia that this change should so soon have been necessary.

THE Adelaide Patriotic Fund has reached a total of nearly £3,000 within a fortnight. The hospital nurses in one day raised £360 by a street collection.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)