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"A PENNORTH OF TAR." THE cost of building and equipping an operating room which comes up to a modern standard is considerable, and we are sorry to see that the Marylebone Guardians have cut down the plans for a new theatre for their infirmary on the ground of expense. The infirmary has been built on model lines, and is an institution of which the Guardians may well be proud; it is a pity, therefore, that their new operation room should not attain the same high level. At the last meeting of the Guardians, the Infirmary Committee brought up an amended proposal for the provision of an operation room. The cost of the room and

operation room should not attain the same high level. At the last meeting of the Guardians, the Infirmary Committee brought up an amended proposal for the provision of an operation room. The cost of the room and fittings were estimated by the architect at  $\pounds 800$ . This estimate did not include the provision of anæsthetic and after-recovery rooms, to which the Guardians had objected as an unnecessary expense. The Infirmary Committee still felt the advisability of having them, but deferred to the opinion of the Board, and had had the plans prepared without them. As the additional cost of these rooms would only be  $\pounds 80$ , it is very regrettable that they should have been cut out of the plan. The provision of an anæsthetic room is a humane action, and it is most desirable that one should



