

Sisters; one grants an allowance for the insurance fee or "for some other purpose," so the Commission has been informed. In seven municipal and Government institutions the nurses are entitled to the functionary fund for pension and disablement, to which they contribute by a compulsory fee deducted from their salary. But, with the greater number of them, providing against disablement is still an open question.

With regard to the *third class*, institutions and corporations with sixteen to thirty-five male and female nurses, the same statement must be made in general. One of them says openly it does not know at all how this matter is arranged for or by the Sisters; another declares, most optimistically, "Oh, the hospital will surely provide for its nurses in times of need," without giving any further details. Some boards of management are honest enough to state that they have as yet never met with any case of disablement on the part of the Sisters, and that they have therefore not taken any measures against it. Some compensation is granted by one institution, where the Sisters are sent home while retaining their salary. Happily, the report tells us also of corporations and institutions that have either already provided against disablement, or which are opening a fund for this purpose. With some of them this matter is arranged by municipal law.

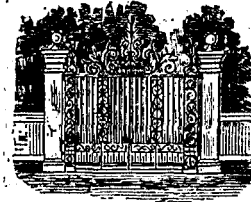
With relation to the *fourth and fifth classes*, the results of the Commission's *enquête* are far more favourable. Only of one of the institutions belonging to this category we learn that "no measures are taken in this line." Whoever thinks that an ideal state has yet been reached is sadly wrong. The regulations made in this respect by the different hospitals differ widely. One hospital, for instance, has a pension fund of its own, out of which an allowance is granted to its disabled nurses; another always gives pecuniary support in cases of disablement; again another is taking care itself of the nursing of the Sisters, who still receive a part of their salary. Seven municipal hospitals pay disablement pensions on the same basis as is accepted for all municipal functionaries. With regard to one institution, we are told that the Board of Guardians pays a pension when disablement is caused by the hospital service; another pays in the same case two-thirds of the salary, and when disablement comes *in*, but not *by*, the hospital service, it grants one-sixtieth of the salary for each year spent in service, at a maximum of two-thirds of the whole salary.

(To be concluded.)

Yet more marvellous elements have been discovered besides radium. It is reported from New York that Professor Baskerville, of the University of North Carolina, claims the discovery of two new elements. One he calls Carolinium, the other Berzelium. These elements owe their development to the use of thorium dioxide. They have a high power of luminosity. It has taken ten years to produce three grains from monazite sand, and these grains are the only specimens that as yet exist. When Professor Baskerville recently exhibited the grains, they shone through copper, brass, rubber, iron, and glass tubes which were inserted in one another and all covered with cloth.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



The Princess of Wales last week opened the new girls' school of St. Paul's which has been erected at Brook Green, Hammer-smith. The foundation of the boys' school, which is connected with the name of Dean Colet, dates back to the opening years of the sixteenth century. The new school, erected at a cost of about £70,000, stands on a site of about two acres in extent. At the back is a large recreation ground. It has been planned to accommodate 400 pupils. Amongst those present were Mrs. Sidgwick, Mrs. Wells, Miss Elizabeth Blakesley, and Miss L. M. Faithful, lady governors, as well as Miss Frances Gray, the first head-mistress. The trustees of the Foundation of St. Paul's are the Worshipful Company of Mercers, of which ancient guild the Prince of Wales is a member, and His Royal Highness congratulated that body on finding their property so largely increased in value as to enable them to create a school for girls similar to that established for boys in the year 1510. The new school will offer thirty-nine scholarships, exempting the holders from the payment of tuition fees. A certain number of these scholarships will be open to girls above the age of twelve years, whether attending the school or not. In addition, the governors will award "leaving exhibitions," tenable at some college or place for the higher education or training of women. Handwork, needlework, cookery in all its branches, and laws of health are among the subjects included in the curriculum.

The Enterprise Club, started in 1899 with a membership of 100 with the object of providing lady clerks and secretaries in the City of London with good and wholesome meals at a cheap rate, and to offer them a place where they can find rest and recreation out of office hours, has now a membership of 350, and has moved into larger premises at 57 and 58, Leadenhall Street, which were opened last Saturday by the Lady Mayoress (Miss Ritchie), who, in a brief speech, expressed her appreciation of the value of the Club. The Lord Mayor also spoke in support of the scheme. The subscription is 10s. per annum, with an entrance subscription of 2s. 6d., and it is noteworthy that, though a substantial hot lunch may be had for 6d., the catering department more than pays its way. The Club has a social side, affords educational advantages, has a registry through which situations are obtained, and a provident fund for the encouragement of thrift and provision against sickness.

The annual report of the Industrial Farm Colony, Duxhurst, Reigate, of which Lady Henry Somerset is honorary superintendent, contains a long account of the successful work which is being accomplished at Duxhurst in the reformation of inebriate women. For the past ten years Lady Henry has made herself responsible for the support of the home, but a committee, with Sir Colin Scott-Moncrieff as chairman and treasurer, has been formed with a view of relieving her of this responsibility.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)