More Practical Points on the Nursing of Phthisis.

By Miss Helen Todd,
Matron, Royal National Sanatorium for Consumption, Bournemouth.

In reading the notes recently contributed on this subject one observes some omissions (due, doubtless, to the limited space at disposal) which are important for the guidance of the private nurse, for whom the paper was presumably written, and who is evidently expected to know little or nothing of the hygienic or open-air treatment of phthisis. In the first place, as the local carpenter is to build the shelter, stress should be laid on roof ventilation. The shelters in the grounds of this institution will here form an object lesson:—The first, built some eight years ago, is a solid, tiled, and picturesque structure, having windows and doors on all sides, but no provision for ventilation higher than the eaves. It will be seen from the accompanying illustration that the roof is one with a steep pitch, and therefore encloses a considerable space where the interchange of air can only take place very slowly. Our second shelter was a present, in the choosing of which we had no choice. It is a revolving one, of a type much advertised, having an open front and small windows at either side. (I may here remark that we have proved revolving shelters undesirable, if turned from the wind they soon become very stuffy, and it is, apparently, impossible to build them with sufficient window space and yet with a strong enough frame to stand the strain of being constantly turned round. We have had to riddle the upper parts of our revolving shelters with large auger holes and even now the result is not satisfactory.)

We have, at last, evolved a pattern of our own, which can be made of any size by any handy carpenter.

VIEW OF SHELTER HAVING TILED ROOF (Old Pattern).

From the side elevation it will be seen that the roof slopes one way only (the shelter faces South), and the sun and air can freely enter—observe the air spaces all round the structure under the eaves, this ensures perfect ventilation for a roof with a single pitch. The whole of the front opens with sliding doors, and even when these must be closed the shelter is completely ventilated by the open eaves and the side and back windows.

The roof is covered with Ruberoid, a patent material impervious to damp and heat resisting.

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