

mittee. Those members who have cycles can get to the ground in about 10 minutes; for the others the trams run close by, and it is only a penny fare.

This tennis ground will be a great boon, for the air is so fresh there that it must be far better for nurses than walking round the shops in the centre of the town.

At the monthly meeting of the Westhoughton Nursing Association the Chairman read a letter of resignation from Nurse Frost, and regret was expressed on all sides that the town was to lose her valuable services. Councillor Hamer said he had much pleasure in moving a vote of appreciation with regard to Nurse Frost. She had been nurse under three chairmen, all of whom would willingly give her a testimonial. She appeared in full sympathy with the patients and with the people. Councillor W. E. Tonge, in seconding, said Nurse Frost's departure was a great loss to the township and to the Association. She was a credit to the nursing profession.

Dr. Anna Hamilton, in reply to a recent article in the *Signal*, asserting that in lay hospitals it is a usual practice for French nurses to demand gifts from the patients in exchange for their services, says that from many years' experience of non-lay hospitals, she can affirm that this system of expecting presents is the rule in them. She has even heard an excellent sister declare it impossible to prevent the practice while the nurses were so insufficiently paid; and that if the heads of wards attempted to do so they would not have a nurse left. The result was that the administration, being unable to augment the salaries of the nurses, closed its eyes to the custom.

Besides, the Sisters themselves often erred in giving to a convalescent patient, who had rendered some service, a dainty, or a glass of wine, specially ordered for a sick person. Neither was the modesty of the patients considered when the Sisters retired, if, for instance, a gynaecological patient was being medically attended, in order that they might see nothing. It was their idea of propriety. After giving other details, Dr. Hamilton points out that the remedy for such conditions lies, not only in the direction of increasing salaries, but in securing women of professional competence and high moral tone to supervise the nursing service, when many girls would be found to gladly give their services in return for two or three years' training. She directs attention to the nursing methods in force in English hospitals to prove her point.

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Surgeon-General Sir A. Keogh, K.C.B., M.D., Director-General Army Medical Service, has been appointed an honorary physician to the King, vice Surgeon-General A. F. Preston, M.B.

The King's Hospital Fund will contribute £1,500 a year for five years to the upkeep of the North-West London Hospital, and the Hampstead General Hospital, between which an amalgamation has been arranged. Part of the present premises of the former hospital will be utilised as an out-patient department.

Chelsea Hospital for Women has received a bequest of £1,000 from the late Mrs. Atkinson Bolger.

A course of lectures on Hygiene and its bearing on school life will be delivered at the Parkes Museum, Margaret Street, under the auspices of the Royal Sanitary Institute, the first lecture being given on September 30th. Lectures and demonstrations on sanitary science as applied to buildings and public works will be given in October and November, and in September, October, and November there will be a course of lectures and demonstrations for sanitary officers.

The *Lancet*, in an article on "The Prevention of Ophthalmia Neonatorum," says: Every maternity hospital ought to have its ophthalmic surgeon, a step as yet taken only by Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London; the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin; and the Maternity Hospital, Glasgow. Other preventive measures, easy and cheap in application, and requiring only organised effort, will readily occur to those qualified to deal with the matter. We cannot but think that the disease might thus be eradicated as completely as typhus fever has been.

The Finchley Cottage Hospital has found a generous friend in Mr. Ebenezer Homan, who has given both the site and £5,000 Metropolitan Water Board Three per Cent. stock. He has now offered to provide an entrance lodge and gates for the hospital building which is in course of erection.

The Glasgow School Board some time ago decided to institute records of the physical measurements of all the children attending its schools, and the facts thus collected have been classified by Government officials, and published in a Blue Book. It has been found that on the average a boy living in a two-roomed house was 11.7lb. lighter and 4.7 in. smaller than a boy who came from a four-roomed house. In the same way, "one-room girls" were 14lb. lighter and 5.3in. shorter than four-room girls.

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