

another remembers an old sofa that could be utilised; at last happy thought (?) there is an ancient chair-bed in the attic, and finally that is apportioned for nurse's weary limbs, and the family retires, hoping nurse will have a good night. Get hold of one nurse and ask her what her experience has been of these make-shifts. A chair-bed was yesterday described to me as 'a lump with a bar in the middle.' Except through the daily paper, it has seemed impossible to acquaint the general public with the fact that some nurses suffer from 'want of thought' in this matter, and their health and spirits would be vastly improved if housekeepers would take the trouble to provide them with good sleeping accommodation."

League News.

The Sub-Committee appointed to draft suggestions for a Constitution for the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland will meet early in October, and the result of their deliberations will then be sent in printed form to every member of the Provisional Committee, for her consideration, previous to a meeting of that body, which will be held in the third week in November, a convenient date for the Chairman, Miss Rogers, to preside.

The South-East Block of the Leicester Infirmary has been entirely re-built, and consists of three wards, each 141 feet long, with small wards and offices attached, and spacious balconies facing south. The block is to be opened on November 5th by H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, and a Bazaar is to be held in the new wards on November 5th, 6th, and 7th. The Nurses' League originally intended to hold a small Sale of Work in one of the wards, on the occasion of the opening, the proceeds to go towards the endowment of a bed; but when the Committee decided to build a larger Nurses' Home as soon as possible, the Chairman, Sir Edward Wood, asked the League to allow the profits from the sale to be devoted to this object. The League, therefore, asked several ladies in the town and county to help them to get up a Bazaar on a larger scale. An influential Committee has been appointed, and it is hoped that they may be able to hand over a substantial sum towards the building of the much needed Nurses' Home, the present Home being far too small to meet the requirements of the Hospital.

The Hospital World.

THE ROTUNDA HOSPITAL, DUBLIN.

By the opening of a new wing at the Rotunda Hospital, there are added to this famous hospital six additional wards and living apartments for a sufficient number of nurses and lady students, rooms for six nurses, a disinfecting chamber for bedding, and for patients' clothes, with an ample supply of baths.

At the opening ceremony, which was performed by the Countess of Aberdeen, Dr. E. Hastings Tweedy (Master) gave a history of the Hospital from the date of its foundation in 1745 up to the present time, observing that it had remained for over a century and a half the most important maternity hospital in the United Kingdom. It now admitted over a thousand women annually in excess of those formerly provided for. These increasing claims might be gratifying as evidence of the good work accomplished, but they were none the less embarrassing when they lead either to the overcrowding of the wards or the closing of the doors for want of room. Hitherto it had been the proud boast of the Rotunda that no poor woman in her hour of need was ever refused admission, but the strain upon the ground space of the lying-in wards, the lack of accommodation for the nurses required, the insufficiency of the means for observing the doubtful cases, and segregating dangerous ones, made it imperatively necessary, not merely for the retaining of the open door but for the well-being of the patients in the wards to provide for the expansion of the work thrust upon them. When her Majesty the Queen visited Ireland, she expressed a hope that the authorities of the hospital might find some means to permit their patients to remain as convalescents for over eight days if they wished to do so. Till now there had been no opportunity of giving effect to this excellent suggestion, but they expected henceforward to have space to do so.

The Lord Lieutenant said that her Majesty the Queen would be delighted to hear of the addition to the hospital, and the Countess of Dudley, that true friend of Ireland, who had taken so much interest in nursing, would also be greatly pleased to know what had been done there. He could only offer his most cordial and earnest expression of good wishes on behalf of Lady Aberdeen and on his own behalf to all concerned in carrying out that good work, to the Governors, the medical staff, and the nursing staff, whose kindness and sympathy, as well as their skill, proved such a blessing to both body and mind of those who sought the aid of the hospital.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)