

## NURSING ECHOES.

Two of the most wonderful movements for bringing grist to the hospital mill popularised of late years have been Ladies' Linen Leagues, the brilliant idea of Mrs. John Handley, of Bath, and Hospital Pound Day. In the illustration, kindly lent by the *Daily Mirror*, Miss Fox, the matron, and two of the staff of the City of London Lying-in Hospital, are seen tabulating the gifts which had been received by the Lady Mayoress, Miss Crosby, when she most kindly responded to the invitation of

Cologne Congress, as nationally important to them are—(1) the Position and Responsibility of the Matron in Training Schools for Nurses. At present in Germany the Matron (if there is one) has little power; (2) the Overwork of Nurses. In this connection a letter addressed by Mr. W. McAdam Eccles to the *Times* in connection with the Insurance Act, incidental to medical education is very opportune.

Mr. McAdam Eccles writes:—

"I have recently returned from Berlin, to which city I went partly with the purpose of observing



A HOSPITAL POUND DAY.

the Ladies' Committee and visited the hospital. As can be seen, the Lady Mayoress had quite a busy time in receiving parcels of tea and sugar, cocoa and groceries, butter, baskets of eggs, and other gifts always useful in a hospital, until the matron's office looked like a store room. The Secretary, we are glad to hear, was encouraged by a goodly number of pounds in hard cash, and a generous promise from the visitor-in-chief. The Lady Mayoress subsequently visited the beautiful little chapel, and passed through the wards, congratulating and praising everyone upon the brightness and order everywhere prevailing.

Two questions which the German nurses consider should receive full consideration at the

the working of the German insurance scheme in relation to the large hospitals and medical education. I have come back with very clear ideas on the subject, and they seem to me to have so marked a bearing on the future of the working of our own Act that I crave some space in which to record them.

"First let me say the German Act works well on the lines on which it is intended it should. Every insured person has a right to admittance to a State hospital, not because they are ill, but because they have paid for it. Up till now in Great Britain our voluntary hospitals have been ready to receive patients because they were ill, and could not afford to pay for the highest skill in treatment. In Germany, the large hospitals are maintained by the State, they receive no voluntary contributions, and charity is absent so far as they are concerned. What does this imply? A veritable

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)