

To judge from correspondence, an ever-increasing interest is being taken by nurses in the treatment and cure of venereal diseases, and many may be able to attend the free lectures which have been arranged at St. Paul's Hospital for Skin and Genito-Urinary (including Venereal) Diseases, 13A, Red Lion Square, Holborn. These free lectures to nurses on Venereal Diseases will be given by Mr. Leonard Myer, F.R.C.S., Hon. Surgeon to Out-patients, on Fridays, October 24th and 31st, and on November 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th, at 5 p.m. All nurses and members of allied professions are invited. This chance of instruction should not be missed. We are all anxious to stamp out this plague, and we must have knowledge to be of use.

Owing to a printer's error we regret that last week 94, instead of 194, Queen's Gate, was given as the address of the new Queen Mary's Hostel for Nurses, which has just been opened. Address—194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

We learn that the salaries of Sisters and Probationers have been revised at the General Hospital, Birmingham. Sisters now begin at £60 per annum, rising £5 annually to £75, and Probationers are paid £18, £22, £28 and £40 during the four years' training and term of service—and all found. There are now vacancies at this hospital, where the fine clinical material provides wide experience for pupils and nurses.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Leeds recently visited the Beckett Street Infirmary for the purpose of unveiling a brass tablet which has been erected by the Leeds Guardians to the memory of three former members of the nursing staff at the Institution. Staff Nurse Nellie Spindler, who was killed at Abbeville by a German shell on August 21st, 1917, during the bombing of the hospital, and Nurses Elsie Pickard and Isabella Renwick, who died from influenza contracted whilst attending victims of the recent influenza scourge.

Business firms throughout the country are realising the value to their employees of medical and nursing advice and help. In a recent number of *The Times Engineering Supplement* it is stated that the Birmingham Small Arms Company during the war, had two large groups of factories devoted exclusively to the manufacture of Lewis guns. Attached to each group was a surgery with a staff consisting of

matron and seven nurses, as well as a dentist. A nurse was also in attendance during the night. A doctor made regular visits.

The arrangements are being continued. Among those who use the surgery are:—

1. Those with a slight injury who can walk.
2. Those with serious injury who have to be assisted.
3. Those who have to be carried in.
4. Those who come for dressings.

Careful records are kept on a card system, red for surgical, yellow for medical, white for dental. The B.S.A. Company regard it as sound policy to supply malt, cod liver oil, and other tonics. Patients come for all manner of complaints—dog-bite, rheumatism, boils, headache, eczema, coughs and colds.

The dental department is very valuable.

The matron is present when the Home Office examinations are being carried out. If lads are found to be tubercular, their parents are informed of the fact. In some cases of poor physique, tonics are given and lighter jobs found. Out-patients are visited by the welfare workers. A welfare scheme with gymnasium and outdoor athletic organisation is in being.

The organisation includes a rest room for men as well as for women. This is a wise measure when it is remembered that many discharged disabled soldiers are now employed.

The Women's Industrial Council are organising a band of educated women to carry on household routine, in modern servantless homes, during the sickness of the mistress. So far, so good; but when the Council proceeds to lay down the qualifications, we may well pause a while. The band are to care for invalids who are not a "hospital nurse" case.

Applications are, therefore, invited from educated middle-aged women with a knowledge of housekeeping, invalid cooking, and the management of children.

Applicants must hold a British Red Cross certificate, or its equivalent in first aid, home nursing, and invalid cookery.

Payment to these educated home-helpers will not be less than 10d. an hour, or 5s. a day, with food, or 25s. a week with meals.

An official of the Council states that many applicants who have applied "hold first-aid certificates, but it is by no means the idea to provide a cheap nurse."

More nibbling at nursing by Red Cross workers! We should have thought the Women's Industrial Council knew more about economics than this plan evinces. Educated

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