

to catch fire. These spirit paints dry quickly, hence their use in ship-repairing yards, where too frequently time is of the greatest importance.

As to the other trades reported upon, space only permits of our mentioning dry cleaning. The danger herein lies in using benzine, a highly intoxicating and inflammable spirit.

Not one of the trades reported upon is free from risk to health. Under each industry reported upon there is tabulated a series of recommendations, which if adopted by the Home Office, cordially received and acted upon by employers of labour, will be productive of good.

We consider that this report of the Dangerous Trades Committee marks an important step in the effort which the Legislature is making to improve the conditions under which our working classes labour. There are many industries that can never be completely freed from incidental dangers or risks to health. It is therefore not only a humane but a wise Government that insists upon all such dangers being reduced to a minimum. To the list of trades to be dealt with, others are constantly arising which are also regarded as injurious to the health of those employed therein, and with which this Committee is from its composition specially competent to deal. Mr. Dalziel, for example, has in the Bill which he proposes to introduce at an early date into the House of Commons notified—and properly, in our opinion—the need there is for an inquiry into our bakeries. Such an investigation is necessary. We shall look forward to the publication of the full report of this Departmental Committee.

THE NEW FEVER HOSPITAL AT SHOOTER'S HILL.

In a very short time the Metropolitan Asylums Board will have at their disposal nearly 500 more beds for the treatment of fever, in consequence of the opening of the Brook Hospital at Shooter's Hill. This hospital ranks among the most perfect that has yet been constructed for its purpose. It is built strictly on the pavilion plan, and comprises about forty separate blocks connected together by covered ways. How far there is any advantage in having these ways covered at all is a matter which may well be questioned. They are absolutely unprotected at the sides, they are very high, and the slightest wind will make the rain beat across just as much as if there were no roof. It is quite obvious that those who have to pass from ward to ward in bad weather will have to wear outdoor clothes and even carry umbrellas, and if the corridors are to be left open to such an extent as they are here they might as well be left without a roof.

Except in the case of the isolation wards, each ward pavilion is two storeys in height. There are twelve of these main pavilions—eight for scarlet fever and four for enteric fever and diphtheria. The general plan of them all is the same except that, while those for scarlet fever contain twenty beds in each main ward, with 12 feet of wall space and 2,028 feet of cubic space to each bed; those for diphtheria contain only twelve beds in each ward, but give 15 feet of wall space and 2,535 feet of cubic space per bed.

The main peculiarities of the pavilions, in which they differ from many other hospitals, are (a) the position of the waterclosets, which are contained in a turret projecting from the side of a ward rather nearer to the administrative than the further end; (b) the position of the bath room, which is at the administrative end; (c) the lowness of the window sills, which are only 2 feet 6 inches from the floor, so that the patients can easily see out; (d) the making of the inner surface of the window frames flush with the face of the wall, thus avoiding internal reveals with their incidental corners and recesses; (e) the external verandahs at the southern end of the wards; (f) the children's baths in the bath rooms; (g) the provision of distinct closet arrangements for the separation ward; and (h) the very large space between the beds in the diphtheria wards.

The heating is by open fireplaces and low pressure hot water. The latter is brought well under control by being an independent circulation for each building, the water being heated by steam. Thus the heat is all distributed from the large boilers to the various buildings by means of steam, but it is applied by means of water. Under each window in the wards there is a copper hot-water coil, contained in an iron

casing, opening on the one hand into the ward, and on the other into the external air, which is thus warmed on its way in. The fronts of all these casings open like oven doors for purposes of cleaning, a very important matter wherever water coils are cased in.

At the administrative end of each pavilion there is a separation ward for two beds, a bath room, a duty room, linen store and larder, together with a separate watercloset for the small ward. This is an arrangement which is not common in hospitals, but it is a great advantage not to have to carry such things as bedpans from the small ward through the large one. There is also in each pavilion a nurses' watercloset and lavatory, so that while a nurse is on duty she need never leave her pavilion. There are no nurses' sitting rooms in connection with the pavilions; when the nurses are on duty they are in the wards. The nurses' home, where the nurses when off duty live and sleep, is an admirably arranged building, and the sitting and dining rooms are charming apartments. There is a separate building for the night nurses' bed rooms, so that they will not have their sleep disturbed.

The medical superintendent has a separate house, and in another block are arranged the rooms for the assistant medical officers, together with the committee room, which they will use as a dining room.

The laundry arrangements are very extensive, the clothes of the patients and the staff being separately dealt with. The steam for heating, for laundry purposes, and for driving the dynamos and other machinery, is derived from three Lancashire boilers working at 100 lbs. pressure, fitted with feed-water heaters and a Green's economiser, and adjoining the boiler house are the disinfecting apparatus and a destructor where all the refuse from the wards will be cremated.

Dr. MacCombie, of the South-Eastern Hospital, has been appointed medical superintendent of the Brook Hospital, and Miss Bann, of the Hull Fever Hospital, to whom we are indebted for most courteously showing us many details in the new hospital, has been appointed matron.

THE MEDICAL GUILD, MANCHESTER.

The usual quarterly meeting of the Medical Guild was held in the Victoria Hotel on July 21st, J. DIXON MANN, M.D., F.R.C.P., Vice-Chairman, in the chair.

After the adoption of the minutes of last meeting and of the Council's report for the quarter, the following gentlemen were elected as vice-presidents of the Guild: Henry Aldred, J.P., M.R.C.S.; Henry Ashby, M.D., F.R.C.P.; C. H. Brad- don, J.P., M.D.; Samuel Buckley, M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.; William Crosby, M.R.C.S.; J. Dreschfeld, M.D., F.R.C.P.; A. M. Edge, M.D., M.R.C.P.; C. E. Glascott, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.; Alfred Godson, M.A., M.B., J.P.; James Hardie, M.D., F.R.C.S.; Francis Hepworth, J.P., M.R.C.S.; Thomas Jones, M.B., F.R.C.S.; David Little, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.; T. N. Orchard, M.D.; D. Lloyd Roberts, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.E.; F. A. Southam, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S.; Graham Steell, M.D., F.R.C.P.; G. A. Wright, B.A., M.B., F.R.C.S.; Walter Whitehead, F.R.C.S.E., F.R.S.E.; Sam Woodcock, M.D., J.P.; A. H. Young, M.B., F.R.C.S.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were passed:

That this meeting strongly deprecates any member of the profession being connected with any medical aid association or system of sickness assurance where canvassing or advertising is practised, or a profit made out of the services of the medical officers.

That the Council take steps to construct a committee representing the various medical societies of Manchester and Salford, such committee to inquire into and deal with the question of club and allied practices in all their branches.

That in the opinion of this meeting the tacit recognition by the profession of the publication of such a list as that issued to the public by Messrs. Jewsbury and Brown is inadvisable, inasmuch as it is calculated to tend towards a relaxation of the ethical rules regarding advertising; and the Honorary Secretary is instructed to communicate this opinion to the gentlemen whose names are so published, in the belief that they will express to Messrs. Jewsbury and Brown disapproval of the inclusion of their names in such a list.

That this guild desires to place on record its appreciation of the firm stand taken by the lately-resigned medical officers of the Lincoln Guild, and asks their acceptance of one guinea towards their expenses.