THE INSTITUTIONAL WORKSHOP.

THE SANATORIUM TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

THE *West London Medical Journal* for October deals more especially with the British Sanatoria for the Open-air Treatment of Tuberculosis, and gives various details about these establishments. The following are the fees per week which are charged at the various sanatoria mentioned:—

Brinklea Sanatorium, Bournemouth (Dr. Kinsey-Morgan), 3½ to 7 guineas a week.

Cotswold Sanatorium, seven miles from Cheltenham (Dr. Pruen and Mr. C. Braine Hartnell), 5 guineas a week.

Crooksbury Sanatorium, near Farnham, Surrey (Dr. F. Rufenacht Walters), expected to be opened in January, 1900, 5 guineas per week.

"The Firs," Mundesley, Norfolk (Dr. Burton-Fanning), 2½ to 3½ guineas per week.

Linford, Ringwood, Hants (Dr. R. Mander Smyth), 5 guineas per week.

Mount Pleasant, Ventnor, 3 to 3½ guineas per week.

Mundesley Sanatorium, Norfolk (Dr. Burton-Fanning), expected to be ready this month, 5 guineas per week.

Nordrach-upon-Mendip, eight miles from Wells (Dr. Thurnam and Dr. Gwynn), 5 guineas a week.

Overton Hall, Bournemouth (Dr. Francis Pott and Dr. C. Guthrie Stein), 5 guineas a week; the medical fee is extra, 2 guineas a week.

Sunny Mount Sanatorium, Stourfield Park, Bournemouth (Dr. Denton Johns), 4 to 6 guineas per week.

Victoria Hospital for Consumption, Craigleith, Edinburgh (Dr. A. W. Philip).

Woodburn, Morningside, Edinburgh (Dr. W. P. Mears), from 5 guineas per week.

Dr. Jane Walker's Sanatorium, at Boxted, near Colchester, 4 to 5 guineas per week.

The North London Hospital for Consumption.

THE BACTERIAL TREATMENT OF SEWAGE.

THE sewage experiments which have been carried on for some time back at Crossness by Dr. Clowes and Dr. Houston, on behalf of the County Council, strongly confirm the opinion that the bacterial treatment of sewage affords the true solution of the difficulties which have so long stood in the way of the universal adoption of the water carriage method of conservancy. Chemical treatment is admitted to be but a makeshift at the best, while irrigation, which at present holds the field, involves the use of very large areas of land, which in some cases cannot possibly be found within reasonable distance of the towns to be drained. Bacterial treatment, on the other hand, requires an amount of land which may be fairly called very small in comparison with what would be wanted for irrigation, while it produces a far better effluent than is given by chemical treatment, and at the same time gets rid of the sludge difficulty. We do not gather from the report what is the manurial value of the effluent; but we should imagine that it would be as great as, if not greater than, that of the sewage itself.

It must not, then, be imagined that the adoption of the process will of necessity detract from the value of such irrigation farms as already exist, for it seems not impossible that the addition of bacterial filter beds may remove many of the difficulties which have stood in the way of the successful management of such farms. A given quantity of land will evidently absorb and utilise a good deal more sewage when the putrescible matters are in solution than when they are in the solid form, while the tendency to produce a nuisance will be far less. In regard to this side of the question a paper read by Mr. Scott-Moncrieff at the recent Congress of the Sanitary Institute is of considerable interest, for he showed that by aid of the bacterial process not only is purification of the sewage obtained, but that a supply of nitrogen ready prepared for plant life is provided. He said that at the present moment disappointment caused by the broken promises of the past, in regard to the profit to be derived from sewage farms, seemed to make everyone look upon sewage as a nuisance to be got rid of; but now that by the bacterial method the proper adjustment of the sewage, in chemical constitution, to the requirements of plant life had been attained, profit to the community would surely follow the use of such highly nitrified effluents for irrigating purposes.

THE FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY FOR SCOTLAND.

THE Commissioners in Lunacy for Scotland have just issued their forty-first annual report. We have now a period of full forty years to look back on, and an enormous mass of statistics to peruse if inclination prompt us in that direction. At the time of the formation of the Lunacy Board, Scotland had 5,824 lunatics, or rather, that was the number of which official cognisance was taken. The number has now swollen to 15,399, that is, it has almost trebled during the forty years, and there is no sign, no hope, that this increase in the registered insane is likely to stop, much less to decrease. The vast majority are pauper lunatics, and we find that the ratio of these to the general population reached its highest mark in 1898, being 301 per 100,000, as against 293, the highest in any previous year. The Commissioners point out that the number of lunatics under jurisdiction of the Board has increased by 164 per cent., whilst the increase of the population has been only 41 per cent. This is not very consoling reading to the careful Scotchman, in whatever way the increase may be accounted for; and the man who has a turn for statistics may carry these figures out to the end of 1940 and show us the number of lunatics which Scotland will have to maintain, and the sum which will have to be paid for them. It may be assumed that each pauper lunatic will cost the country about £25 per annum.

Apart from these sad causes of reflection, it may be said that this Blue Book is, like its predecessors, an eminently readable and satisfactory one, with perhaps one exception, which we shall mention further on, and that it is much less toilsome and wearisome than such things are wont to be. There is a clearness in the arrangement of the letterpress which makes the statistics easy to follow.

We notice that the recovery rate in the royal and district asylums stands at 40 per cent. on the admissions; in private asylums at 41 per cent., and in parochial asylums at 42 per