

by blue blinds. The fire-places are modern and handsome. The bedsteads are the usual three-foot iron ones common to all Hospitals, but here they have a wire framework of phosphor-bronze wire, slightly raised in the middle, and attached to the bedsteads, head and foot, by strong springs; over this there is a good horsehair mattress, with a calico casing; a feather pillow and bolster complete the bedding. In lieu of coverlid, the Matron has substituted an Austrian blanket, which gives the dormitories a cheerful look. The supply of other blankets is ample for each bed.

The patients' day-rooms are large and cheerful, well lighted and well warmed, with comfortable chairs and seats all about. The one set apart for the men is larger than the women's, and is used, when required, for entertainments, and on these festive occasions over a hundred people can be seated. There was also a piano in the room. The afternoon I was in the Hospital, I noticed a stream of women and children wending their way, or being wended to the men's room; a little maid, with one eye bandaged up, was carefully leading a companion, who had both eyes shaded down; an old lady trying to feel her way downstairs by herself was promptly taken in tow by the Matron, and put into the right track. I asked the cause of this invasion of the men's quarters, and was informed that a lady visitor was coming to play and sing to the patients. Shortly afterwards perfect thunders of applause echoed through the corridors, showing conclusively how thoroughly those kind efforts were appreciated by the patients. Our modern Guild of St. Cecilia can never better exercise their powers than for the amusement of those suffering from eye affections; many of the men cannot see to read, nor the women to sew, nor the little children to play; what can comfort and please them more than "the concord of sweet sounds," and such simple airs and ditties as they can understand and enjoy? Leading out of the men's day-room is their smoking-room, where they

can have the solace of their pipes, and chat with each other in their comfortable easy-chairs.

The women's day-room, where, like the men's, their meals are all served, is quite as nice, though not so large. The children share this apartment.

The Hospital kitchen is on a top storey, where sanitarians tell us all kitchens ought to be, and in this case about five hundred feet above the sea level. The cooking is done by a gas-stove, but it seemed to me that it might be usefully supplemented by a good cooking range, for in times of stress the Corporation gas supplies run short, and cook does not have heat enough to get her meals served to time. The dual arrangement common in private households would be a help here. The food is sent down to the Wards by lifts, a great save of time and trouble for the Nurses. "We all fare alike here," said the Matron to me; "the Nurses have the same food as the Medical Officers and myself."

The pantry is on a level with the kitchen, sharing the advantages of elevation combined with good ventilation; a great improvement, to my mind, over subterranean receptacles for food, with necessarily imperfect ventilation. The scullery sink, that fruitful source of household contamination, is drained by *outside* pipes—the water service is abundant and constant. All the kitchen supplies come up by the lift, and the kitchen refuse goes down to the basement of the building. Coals are brought up from below by the lift to all the rooms in the Hospital, and the men fill the hods. There is a drug lift, and medicines are sent to the upper rooms from the dispensary, and empty bottles sent down; in fact, there is very little *stair-work*, that is at all times trying to Nurses.

The Nurses' day and dining-room, a comfortable, airy, cheerful-looking apartment, is on the same floor as the kitchen, and their dinner can be served hot. The Nurses have bedrooms to themselves, well ventilated, with window and fire-



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