

**Nursing in Denmark.\***

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Kommunehospitalet i Kobenhavn is our largest hospital. It contains more than 950 beds in six male and six female divisions, viz. two surgical, two medical, one for nervous and mental patients (the latter are removed as soon as the diagnosis is made out), and one for diseases of the skin, etc.

Pupils desirous of entering the hospital are received for a term of fifteen months, and they receive a practical and theoretical training. Their work in the sick room is taken as an equivalent for their training. They receive no salary, but they have full board, lodging, uniform, and laundry.

The theoretical training, given by a house surgeon, is suspended during the summer months.

After this course of fifteen months an examination takes place and the successful candidates may be accepted as assistant nurses and receive the usual salary.

Pupils who wish to do private nursing or to work in the country hospitals may take part in this training, but they receive neither lodging, dress, nor laundry, and they have to pay 30 kronen (a krone is about 25 cents) monthly for board. These extra pupils may, after having passed their examinations, continue their work at the hospital for six months without paying for their board, after which term they may have a certificate on leaving the hospital.

The age required for admission is generally between twenty-two and thirty years.

Next to the Kommune Hospital comes the Konselige Frederika Hospital. I have no information *re* the training at this hospital.

Dronning Louises Bornehospital contains sixty to sixty-five beds, surgical and medical cases together, and children; boys and girls together while small.

The printed communication before me is dated January 1st, 1900.

Pupils are received for two years' practical and theoretical training, on the same terms as above. Besides the general training they will be taught to work in the operating theatre, and in the out-patient department, to sterilise milk, etc.

Theoretical training as above.

During the second year they may be looked upon as assistant nurses if such a position is vacant; they then receive the usual salary. Age of admission, about twenty to thirty years.

"Day-pupils" are received for a term of three months, and pay 30 krone monthly for board.

Froken Lovenhielm has given information to

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the effect that her nursing school is now a deaconesses' home with a three years' training for deaconesses. Its name is now St. Lucas Stiftelse.

Den Danske Diakonisses Stiftelse has a hospital containing about ninety beds for men and women, medical and surgical cases together. I am informed by the lady superintendent that the sisters going in for training at this institution will not all qualify as nurses. They always begin with thorough training in housekeeping and housework, if possible laundry work also; then they generally go to a home for incurables, and after that to the sick wards.

Here they usually commence in the children's wards, and after a few months they go to the adult male and female wards; the pupil now works under the supervision of the elder sisters in the different wards for at least one year if she is deemed fit for sick-nursing, and is expected to work afterwards at county hospitals. The sisters who are to do district nursing are very often only eight months in the wards, but generally they work for three months at a maternity home.

All the sisters, even if they enter for teaching or housekeeping, have at least six months' training in the sick wards. Only those sisters who seem to be especially fit for it are admitted to do surgical operative work.

The head physician teaches pathology once a week for nine months; a sister gives a weekly lesson in anatomy, bandaging, etc.

Such is the plan, which is not always strictly followed, as individual exigencies may necessitate an alteration, but the tendency is toward prolongation.

Kobenhavn Garnisonssygehus.—This is the metropolitan Military Hospital, and contains about five hundred beds, medical and surgical cases together in different divisions and clinics. Besides the divisions for medical and surgical male cases, there is one for women and children. This hospital has a ward for epidemic fevers, as well as for eye and ear cases, etc.

The nursing in this hospital is based on the same principles as in our best civil hospitals.

My information is derived partly from an article by the Danish Surgeon-General, Doctor Johan Moller, in the April number (1898) of a medico-military paper, "Militorlagen," published quarterly, and partly from the report of the "Overplejersker" (head nurse or superintendent of nursing), received a week ago.

Pupils are received for a term of six months, and are placed under the supervision of one of the elder nurses or assistant nurses for their practical training. During the three summer months one of the house surgeons lectures two hours weekly, teaching anatomy and military nursing. This training is finished by an examination,

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