

THE ENDSLEIGH PALACE HOSPITAL FOR OFFICERS.

The committee of the Endsleigh Palace Hospital for Officers, Endsleigh Gardens, of which Sir Archibald Williamson is chairman, were fortunate in securing a building so suitable for their purpose as the Endsleigh Palace Hotel, which was originally designed for the purpose of an hotel with a nursing home on the top flat. This has now been requisitioned by the War Office and is provided not only with two excellent operating theatres, but with a stretcher as well as a passenger lift. Immediately opposite the theatres is a sterilizing room, and an X-Ray room has been fitted up under the supervision of Sir Rickman Godlee, who is acting as surgeon to the hospital.

It is estimated that the hospital will contain at least 100 beds. The building was placed, rent free, at the disposal of the Committee by the War Office, with the request that it should be opened with the least possible delay. But the War Office only makes the ordinary allowance of three shillings a day towards upkeep, which has, therefore, to be met mainly by private donations. Some £6,000 has already been received for this purpose, but it is estimated that from £15,000 to £20,000 will be needed to maintain it for a year.

In regard to situation, a pleasanter one could hardly be obtained in the centre of London. Facing St. Pancras' Church, it looks straight across Endsleigh Gardens. From all the windows there is a pleasant view, while from the top of the building its extent and beauty has to be seen to be appreciated.

The Hon. Medical Staff has been selected by Sir Rickman Godlee, and the War Office has appointed Major L. Haden Guest, R.A.M.C., as resident Military Commandant.

The Nursing Staff is under the superintendence of Miss E. Tubbs, cert. Guy's Hospital, and we were glad to learn from Lady Williamson that the nursing is to be done entirely by trained nurses, assisted by male nursing orderlies who will act as probationers, and also valet the patients. Officers, she explained, do not care about being nursed by girls who may be their partners at a dance another day. It was better these girls should nurse the Tommies whom they never see again (under the supervision of trained nurses, we suggested, a suggestion with which Lady Williamson agreed). Also, she said, the officers get rather nervy if they think they are attended by inexperienced girls. If they know their nurses are trained they are all right.

A special feature of each floor is its still room, where two ladies in the morning, and two in the afternoon, serve all the teas and coffees and thus relieve the nurses. Rows of fire-proof tea pots and coffee pots, and of white china plates and toast racks, testify to the resources of this department.

Gifts that would be appreciated are wheel chairs, electric bedside lamps, rubber hot water bottles, and down cushions.

FEVER NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the Fever Nurses' Association was held on June 26th at the offices of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, Embankment, E.C., when a satisfactory Annual Report was presented by the Council, which stated that, in spite of all the calls made upon the hospital world, the Association is still steadily progressing.

Applications for membership and registration of fever nurses during the past year bring the number up to 1995.

Three hospitals have been added to the list of training schools, viz., Joyce Green, Dartford, Croydon Borough Hospital, and Wimbledon Isolation Hospital, Gap Road, Wimbledon.

The Report further drew attention to the fact that a Petition signed by 503 Matrons in support of the Nurses' Registration Bill was presented to the Prime Minister in March, 1914, and that in August, when the Home Secretary received a deputation, the Fever Nurses' Association was represented by Dr. Goodall and Dr. Foord Caiger.

The Council has agreed that tuberculosis shall be one of the diseases recognised by the Association for purposes of Fever Training, but that the total number of beds allocated to fever training in a recognised hospital shall not be more than 20 per cent., and not more than one third of the qualifying period of a candidate shall be spent in the tuberculosis wards.

Circular letters have been sent to the hospital authorities (a) containing recommendations as to off duty time of fever nurses; (b) calling attention to the value of the certificate of the Fever Nurses' Association, as evidence of efficient fever training; and (c) requesting the heads of hospitals which are recognized as training schools to state when advertising for probationers that the certificate of the Association is obtainable at their hospitals.

It is satisfactory that there is an increasing desire on the part of nurses to secure the certificate of the Association.

The balance sheet shows an excess of income over expenditure of £2 12s. 8d.; and a total balance at the bank and in the hands of the officers of £229 10s. 4d.; a very satisfactory condition of affairs.

The Association is once more indebted to Mr. W. H. Jarratt for kindly giving his services as Auditor.

The Council acknowledges the privilege accorded to it by the Metropolitan Asylums Board of the use of a room for its various Committee meetings.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

The Council has appointed Dr. Biernacki, Medical Superintendent of the Plaistow Fever Hospital, as President for the ensuing year. Dr. Biernacki's interest in the organization of both general and fever nursing is well known; and his fluent tongue and logical pen are valuable assets to any society.

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