

A beautiful walk by the Lake at Blenheim.

On completion of our absorbing tour—the way was now to tea! for which a walk along the beautiful terrace brought the company to the charming Arcadian Tea Rooms, where this refreshment had been arranged. The owners, however, of this catering establishment—on learning that the visitors were professional nurses and of the National Council of Nurses, insisted on their kind invitation for all to be their guests.

Of this wonderful hospitality, which brought to a close the end of a perfectly organised and delightful day, all were

most grateful and deeply touched.

A visit to Blenheim leaves a strong desire to see it again! Therefore, as Blenheim is now recognised as a National Monument of the first importance, we would urge everyone to take the first opportunity of visiting it—for "Blenheim is the most splendid relic of the age of Anne, and there is no building in Europe except Versailles, which so perfectly preserves its original atmosphere!"

The Second Day's Course.

At the beautiful quarters of Riddell House, St. Thomas's Hospital, London, the second day of the course was devoted to talks on:—"The Florence Nightingale International Foundation," by Miss Ellen Bröe—Director: "The National Florence Nightingale Committee for Great Britain and Northern Ireland," by Miss M. Craven, secretary to the Committee; and "Committee Procedure—Responsibilities of the Secretary," by Miss G. E. Davies, formerly Registrar to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales and Vice-President of the National Council of Nurses. And finally, "The Art of Clear Expression" by Miss H. M. Taylor, N.E.A., from the Abbey School for Speakers. In her address on this subject, Miss Taylor enthralled her audience which she deeply impressed of the desirability of tuition in this valuable cult.

As the guests of the Matron, the nursing staff and the Governess, the members were most hospitably entertained to luncheon and tea.

The End of the Course.

The last day of the programme arranged in the Course for Secretaries and Treasurers of Affiliated Associations of the National Council of Nurses, brought an enjoyable visit to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

The meeting opened at 10.15 a.m., Miss G. E. Davies in the Chair. Following a warm welcome accorded to the Party by the Matron, Miss Loveridge, Miss Daisy Bridges, R.R.C., Executive Secretary to the International Council of Nurses, gave a most interesting address on "The relationship between the International Council of Nurses and the National Council of Nurses." Expressing her pleasure in having this opportunity of meeting this key organisation, Miss Bridges felt it was very appropriate that this meeting should be held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital; as a Great Pioneer—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, who founded the International Council of Nurses in 1899, and five years later, the National Council of Nurses in 1904—was once the Matron of this Hospital. In a lucid survey of the relationship between the two organisations and of the far reaching activities of the I.C.N., she felt that in the Co-ordination of the N.C.N and the I.C.N. there could be a great power in the World for good—a power we all wished for—peace.

Thanking Miss Bridges for her interesting address—Miss Davies invited questions and after a short discussion all proceeded to the Nurses dining room—where, as the guests of the Matron, the Nursing Staff and the Governors, a delightful repast awaited the visitors.

Then came the departure for the visit to King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst. Very soon, the members comfortably seated in their respective coaches, found they had left the City far behind and, enjoying to the full the renowned beauty of Surrey and Sussex, finally passing through a wood drive to the crest of the hill—the sanatorium was reached. The charming design and perfect setting of the building are entrancing, situated as it is with a south aspect from which there spreads an uninterrupted view for many miles of the South Downs. On being conducted to the nurses' sitting room, the Matron, Miss Schofield, having received the party, Sir Geoffrey Todd, K.C.V.O., M.B., Ch.M., F.R.C.S., delivered his lecture "On the Problems of Management of Cases of Tuberculosis." In this very interesting lecture he touched on many aspects of the work, from the balanced diet—to the value of sport—and stressed the importance of the nurses training in tact and understanding of T.B. patients, and the care that is taken of the nurses' health. In his closing remarks—Sir Geoffrey warned the audience, that the excellent new drug—Streptomycin must not be used without medical order. Miss Davies proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Sir Geoffrey for his most instructive lecture.

On the invitation of Sir Geoffrey, the Matron, Miss Schofield and the Nursing Staff—all much enjoyed tea served in the staff sports hut; here in friendly chatter with the staff, their pride in the work and the beautiful surroundings was soon apparent. Then followed the tour of the Sanatorium: built in 1904, there is accommodation for some 172 cases—who are in single rooms; lights instead of bells are installed; and patients are admitted from 16 to 60 years of age. The patients' rooms are most tastefully equipped and gay chintz for the curtains give a very bright effect. The decorations vary, as Sir Geoffrey considers the colour scheme of great importance. Therefore if brown suits Mrs. Smith, then Mrs. Smith's room is brown.

The various departments were visited: the Occupational Therapy Dept., the X-ray and suite, the Operating Theatre and suite, the Kitchen (main) where salads were in preparation (the lettuce and tomatoes, etc., usually grown on the premises)

and the pork of their own rearing.

In the grounds, the beautiful terraces slope down from the main building to lawn and golf course; herbaceous borders and many rare shrubs abound, and the picturesque previous page next page