

a position in psychiatric social work for a year. A University degree is much appreciated by the authorities and many nurses proceed to take this in order to obtain a higher post.

A student nurse's salary after her general training is about £130 a year resident, but during training no salary is usually given, except in rare cases, but never in the larger hospitals, where she has to pay sums varying from £120 according to the training school. In order to meet the problem of unemployment, the larger hospitals of 900 beds or so only admit 50 to 60 student nurses a year.

Some of the approved general training schools have as few as 25 beds, but these are usually affiliated to other hospitals. One great advantage of the hospitals in the United States of America is that when they are out of date they are pulled down and rebuilt, not extended or altered. The equipment and all apparatus is therefore excellent. They believe in spending more money in labour-saving appliances than in employing a large amount of service.

The nurses' residence in the general hospitals, too, is comfortable and modern, and compares favourably with the mental nurses' quarters.

A nurse taking her general training spends about six weeks to two months in the theatre and out-patient department, and her work is made to correlate with her work in the ward, so that if she is working in a gynaecological ward she attends similar patients in the out-patient department. She spends three months in a hospital for infectious diseases, two months in a public health department, two months in midwifery nursing, and three months in the children's wards and three months in psychiatry. There is a definite trend to regard a course in theory and practical psychiatry as a part of the general nurses' training.

Mental nurses who enter the State mental hospitals go as students for two years, their studies and lectures are given during their hours of duty, and after that period they are allowed to enter an affiliated hospital for the study of general nursing.

Only the head nurse and charge nurse are graded unless promotion is being considered, and a personal committee decides upon promotion. This personal committee consists of the Superintendent of the Hospital, the Director of Nursing, the Senior Physician of each service and the two Chief Supervisors. The committee meets once a week, the Superintendent acting as the chairman and recording the grades on a permanent sheet, together with any remarks or comments. Any difference of opinion is discussed and the majority opinion is recorded.

The method of grading is so worked that about four nurses are graded each week, and each head nurse or charge nurse receives one of these nurses at six-monthly intervals. A report sheet is used by everyone who has the supervision of each nurse to be graded, and this is filled in during the course of one week.

The supervision concerns also the physician, the supervisor and assistant supervisor, who are mostly in close touch with the work of the nurse.

Every country in Europe now has provision more or less adequate for the care and proper treatment of the mentally sick patient. In Belgium, farm colonies are used for the incurables, and the curable cases stay near the larger cities in hospitals, where the patients can stay

only for a limited time. The hospitals for the incurables are much larger in size and further into the country, and are found thus to be less costly to the country, for it enables economy of management when cure is of no avail, especially in the case of the feeble-minded and idiots. This enables those patients who may be curable to receive every possible treatment, however costly, as their number is much smaller than the number of incurables.

In this same way Germany, Austria and France carry out this method of dividing the two classes, one for the curable and the other for the incurable.

In England, two very large establishments at Caterham and Leavesden are the best examples of institutions for incurables, each with over 2,000 inmates.

In most European countries the nurse is taught mental diseases in the course of her general training.

In Hungary the nurse's training covers a period of two years which includes, apart from mental diseases, Hygiene, Child Psychology, Fevers, Venereal Disease, Tuberculosis, the History of Nursing, Social Problems and Social Administration, Psychology, and the Elements of Economy. The practical training includes Maternity work and school and social services.

U.S.S.R.

In June, 1918, the People's Commissariat of Health was established, a commissar was placed at the head of the association, assisted by two vice-commissars, the Collegium and the Scientific Medical Council. The whole medical organisation is a network of community-like clinics, and is worked so that the individual can pass freely from factory, home, school and to the hospital if necessary. There are no special hospitals as in England. All work together and large factories have their own clinics for psychiatry and neurology, dentistry, and so on.

There is very little free choice of a doctor, as doctors are scarce when compared with the number of patients requiring their services. The physician is listed as a public worker and belongs to a union. There is no panel, and private practice is discouraged. He receives wages and an old age pension at 60 years of age.

The nurses usually live at their own homes, as they are mostly married, but a few senior staff remain in the hospital. The hours of work for all nurses are reduced from four to eight hours, but for mental nurses the hours are reduced as much as possible, as it is considered too much of a strain to give long hours to this sort of work.

Owing to the ease in which the nurses can study and become fully qualified doctors, there is a shortage of students in the nursing training schools.

Mental disease is much less prevalent in the Soviet Union than in western countries, and according to Karanovich, head of the Section of Psychiatric Service, there are three mental patients for every 1,000 persons, seven per 1,000 in the United States of America, eight in Germany, and ten in Italy.

Moscow has 11 district psychiatric clinics and only 8,000 beds for mental cases available for the City and the rural districts, which is still inadequate.

Should it be necessary for the patient to enter a mental hospital, two additional physicians must examine him.

In U.S.S.R. the slogan is "He who does not work,

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