

necessary examination. The training is thorough, practical, and theoretical. For the credit of the institution depends upon the efficiency of the nurse when she goes forth to face competition. At the end of her third year a nurse gets special cases among the outdoor patients, and those who are brought into the accident ward. She also has an opportunity of learning what there is to be known in such special branches as the eye, ear, and throat departments, and of the special diseases of women. The operating theatre is open to her, for by this time she is inured to that which in the earlier stages

A nurse's life at the Sydney Hospital, however, is not all work. Miss Gould is a cyclist, and she and the members of the nurses' cycling club wear a sensible and becoming costume—not nurses' uniform, which is unsuitable for the purpose. Then, as to their quarters, they are as comfortable as possible. They have a nicely furnished reception room, where they entertain callers and friends. There is their own private sitting room, as well appointed and as cosy as anyone could wish; there is a library of up-to-date books and periodicals. The dining rooms are large and well lighted, and



OFF DUTY. PRINCE ALFRED'S HOSPITAL, SYDNEY.

of her training would be too much for her. There are three hundred and twenty-six beds in the Sydney Hospital, and sixty-three nurses, or a fraction over five beds per nurse.

Sick cookery is a subject upon which much importance is placed. Under the guidance of the matron, the writer saw this branch of hospital work in full swing. There were dainty dishes of all sorts, cakes innumerable, and the hundred and one little things that make all the difference between an appetite and no appetite. This is invaluable experience for the nurse when she takes up private nursing or passes out to a small country hospital.

the nursing staff have all their meals served by neatly attired maids. Discipline is strict. It is necessary that it should be so. But the matron is never unjust, nor does she ever create imaginary difficulties. The writer ventured to tell the matron that he was almost persuaded to become a nurse. "You would leave at the end of the first month," she added, with a slight suspicion of sarcasm.

Be that as it may, the conditions are not so dreadful as some would have the public believe. The hours do not average more than ten and a half a day, and there is no work to which any woman need take objection.

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