

The Hospital World.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL, BRIGHTON.

SEVERAL years have passed since I paid a visit to the Sussex County Hospital at Brighton, and if I needed a theme with which to encourage the disheartened hospital worker, one is ready to hand, in contrasting this fine old hospital as it was a decade ago, with its present almost perfect arrangements. Indeed, its evolution from a defective, old-fashioned institution, into a model hospital, would be extraordinary, did I not know how much energy and good feeling has been devoted to its reorganization, upon the part of the Committee and the medical and nursing officers. The Hospital contains nearly 200 beds, and in the short space of a few years an entirely new suite of operating rooms has been built; also finely ventilated turret towers containing lavatories and bath-rooms, new hard wood polished floors laid down, an isolation block, out-patients' block, and nurses' home, have arisen, and, indeed, one felt like Rip-van-Winkle in making a grand tour of all these improvements in company with the very popular Matron, Miss Katherine Scott, and an active member of the Board.

THE NEW THEATRE.

The magnificent new operating theatre at the top of the hospital, was first visited. This we reached in a roomy lift, arranged to hold the hand ambulance and stretcher on which the patient can be wheeled from his bedside to the anæsthetic room, opening into the fine operation chamber; here quite a nest of little apartments are arranged, all *en suite*, the waiting-room, anæsthetic room, the operating theatre, recovery room, and surgeons' dressing-room. The walls are of opalite, all the fittings are plated, and every detail suggested by modern science for the safety and recovery of the patient is wonderfully perfect. One little item—an important one—might be added, and this is a bath in the surgeons' dressing room. We should like to see every surgeon carrying into practical effect the lessons of true asepsis, and it would be well for him to shed his work-a-day raiment, bathe, and step into a sterilised operating suit before proceeding to the Theatre.

THE NURSES' HOME.

Very wisely, we think, the new Nurses' Home has been placed right up on the hill side behind the hospital—with which it is connected by a covered way—and thus commands a magnificent view over the Channel. Invigorating fresh winds play round it on every side, an immense advantage from the point of view of health, and I was not at all surprised to find the cosy sick-room empty and to learn that there was not one nurse off duty ailing. In this Home, a Sister resides, and

all the little rooms are modelled on her own tasteful apartments; indeed, under the pretty pink canopy which draped her bed one can imagine only dreams of the most roseate hue. In a word, it is a sweet and charming Home, and must add incalculably to the happiness of the nurses, and, in consequence, to the quality of their work.

THE OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT.

The new Out-patient Department has been built on the opposite side of the road approaching the main entrance to the Hospital, and is a most admirably arranged department, organized in every detail for the convenience of both patient and doctor. The fine central Waiting Hall is most handsomely ceiled with wood, and out of this hall branch rooms in which the surgeons and physicians have every facility at hand for carrying out their scientific work in the most efficient manner. The detachment of an out-patient department from the central building and wards has so much to recommend it that the benefit of its isolation is at once apparent, when one remembers the necessity for surgical cleanliness in dealing with the sick. In a word, I was charmed with the wonderful improvements at the Sussex County Hospital, and realised, as only a trained nurse can do, what an immense increase of responsibility and labour falls to the share of the modern Matron, and how necessary it is that every care should be taken to enable women to fit themselves for this most onerous position by a special educational course, if they are to carry out the duties of the office with credit and success.

E. G. F.

Sir Julian Goldsmid Home of Rest for Nurses.

RECEPTION OF WOMEN WORKERS

THE Home of Rest for Nurses at 12, Sussex Square, Brighton, is now known to so many nurses and justly valued by them, that it occurred to us that its arrangements and useful work might be of interest to many of the energetic women workers who, as members of the National Union, were to hold their Annual Conference at Brighton this year. So invitations from the President, Mrs. Lionel Lucas, and the Committee, were forthwith issued, and a most delightful "At Home" was the result on Wednesday the 24th inst. Anxious, as usual, to do every honour to guests, Mrs. McIntyre, helped by nurse friends, worked untiringly, with the result that the Home looked charming, and called forth well deserved praise on the part of the visitors, who were received by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Hon. Secretary, and later by Mrs. Lionel Lucas.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)