

nurse added that she thought Mrs. Powell did not know what was going on.

Of course, these nurses may or may not have been trained women—without a standard or legal status as we are at present, every attendant on the sick has a right to be termed “nurse”; but one would have thought that, whether she were trained or not, Mrs. Nystrom would have realised how wrong it was to guide a practically dead hand to sign away thousands of pounds of money.

We can recollect the time when London had but a few Nursing Homes, and those of the most primitive kind. Now the swift strides of surgical science demand that these useful establishments shall be very up-to-date in their appointments. In the West-End of London, of course, the great and almost insuperable difficulty is the restricted space on which our houses are built, and many of the “Homes” are still of a very makeshift character.

In the country, space is less costly, and in the majority of thriving country towns Nursing Homes are being equipped, some of them on quite ideal lines. From a description sent to us we should imagine that the King's Gate Nursing Home in Aberdeen is one of these, as it has been established in a large and beautifully situated house, No. 52, King's Gate, and equipped in a very thorough manner.

A special feature of the institution is the operating theatre, which has been specially constructed on the first floor, so that everything may be suitable for the special work of this department. Lofty and airy, with roof and side light, the latter being admirably arranged, the theatre is one of the best of its kind. It has a dado of polished white tiles. The walls are also painted white, and the fittings are so chosen and arranged that the whole place has an air of scrupulous cleanliness and neatness. The basins are of the latest kind, where the flow of water is regulated by the foot instead of by the hand, both hands being thus left free for use. The “rapid cooler” stands at the side, while the cases for the sterilising of dressings, the gauge for regulating the pressure of heat, the cases for the smaller and larger surgical instruments, the operating table, and the other requirements are all in their special positions where they will be most convenient.

On the first floor there is also the doctors' room, where consultations with patients and their friends take place. There is a telephone in it. Adjoining is a ward for three or four patients, and on the opposite side of the lobby a smaller ward, one of several where one patient may have special attention by himself or herself. There is also a spacious bathroom on this floor. Two of the five rooms on the top storey are available as wards for patients,

and the others are utilised as nurses' dormitories and sitting-room. On the ground floor there is a large ward and a smaller one, a nurses' sitting-room, laundry, and kitchen accommodation at the back, and ample pantry accommodation, while a commodious entrance hall is appropriately furnished. All the rooms are very conveniently situated, and the staircase is wide and lofty.

M. Monod contributes a most thoughtful paper to the *Revue de Paris* on French public health, from which we learn that France has remained quite extraordinarily mediæval as regards many questions affecting public health, and that the most ill-managed workhouse infirmary in this country can boast of a better trained nurse than the largest and most important Paris hospital. This is the more strange when it is remembered that many Frenchwomen receive the most admirable and thorough obstetrical training.

This state of things may in time be remedied; but it is doubtless owing in a measure to the fact that till lately both private and public nursing was undertaken by the religious orders; the nuns, though untrained in the English sense, being in many cases devoted and highly-bred women, who took their duties very seriously. Now these have been replaced by a class who take up nursing because they cannot get anything else to do, and the average sick nurse often does not enter on her calling till well over middle age.

Nursing Sister T. G. Manley has left Capetown on s.s. *Dunera*, which is due at Southampton on August 6th.

The S.A.C. have greatly reduced their staff of Sisters in South Africa, and are closing down most of their hospitals. The company have arranged with the Government to utilise the Sisters in the Transvaal District Hospitals. Miss Nicholson has thus been appointed Matron of the Government Hospital at Barberton, and Sisters H. Lawrence and Oxley have been appointed Sisters at the same institution. Barberton is a pretty little place, with huge kopjes all around, and plenty of water and trees—very different to the bare veldt country round Sydenham, where they were formerly working, and it is no doubt a refreshing change for the Sisters to see something green.

King's College Hospital has been doing good work in the neighbourhood of Lincoln's Inn for fifty-six years. Now the Committee, with the united support of the medical staff, have decided to recommend to the Governors in October that the hospital should be re-established in a more needy district, presumably in the south-east of London, and so constructed that, with additional beds and modern equipment, it may be much more useful to the poor.

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