

pence a week. She had served nine years, and was seventy-four when this generous provision was made for her future. This would mean that she was sixty-five when she entered upon her term of service, which gives some inkling of what nursing would be like in those days. In 1826 it was solemnly ordained that any nurse selling beer to any of the patients should be immediately discharged, and, sure enough, in the very next year, one was dismissed for "taking fees, receiving improper food and ministering the same to the patients, allowing cards to be played, and pipes to be smoked in the ward."

In 1814 there was a difficulty in obtaining nurses, and the salaries were advanced by £1 per annum. In 1816 that of a nurse of five years' standing was £11 4s. per annum, and next year the amount was raised to £12, with an additional £1 after five years, and a further £1 after eight years' service. Night nurses appeared to have been on a different footing from the others, and, as late as 1847, the Matron was ordered to ascertain every day from the House Surgeon the number of nurses she was to engage for the night. In the following year, however, the Board adopted a resolution that it was desirable to have the nursing by night as well as by day performed by residents in the house. At this time the wages of the nurses in the four principal wards were raised to £15, and those of the others to £13, subject to increase on length of service. Another order was that the four meals of the nurses and servants be taken together in the kitchen. Beer was allowed, a pint each for the women and the boys at dinner and supper, and a pint and a-half for the men. The resolution already referred to was given effect to in 1849, when four permanent resident night nurses were appointed, with (in 1900) a resident Night Superintendent.

Signs of a new order were manifested in 1861, when it was resolved to admit a certain number of probationers to learn nursing in the hospital, board and lodging to be given them, but no salary. Then it was agreed (1862) that "two pupil nurses be received into the hospital to undergo a training of not more than twelve months' duration, and that such nurses be paid at the rate of £8 yearly," also that certificates should be given them upon their leaving. In 1864 some further improvements were suggested by a special committee, and in 1870 a uniform dress was provided. This was for indoors. The outdoor uniform was not sanctioned till 1890. The idea of a training-school and home for nurses dated from 1875, consequent upon a report of a special committee, and the first Lady Superintendent, Miss Graham, was then appointed, and a general re-arrangement made. In the following year it was reported that since the changes in the nursing department no case of pyæmia had occurred.

Erysipelas and pyæmia had given great trouble during the two preceding years. Miss Graham resigned after two years, when Miss Adam was appointed in her place.

In 1885, after the erection of the new hospital, the nurses were accommodated in the old block at the city end of the front, and an Assistant Superintendent, under the Lady Superintendent, was appointed in charge. This was soon found to be inadequate, and part of the isolation block was taken in during 1891, when also the Nursing Committee was appointed, and the lectures to and examination of nurses by the medical staff inaugurated. In 1899 came the generous offer of the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Leicester, to erect a proper and adequate Nurses' Home in the hospital grounds, for which he has given a sum of £15,000.

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Saturday last was a proud day for "Leo," the Harrow Hospital dog, as he was chosen to present a bouquet of roses to the Queen upon her arrival at the Dog Show, held in the Botanical Gardens, where she witnessed the parade of prize-winners, among which were two of her own, as Her Majesty carried off a prize both in the Borzois and deerhound classes.

The sub-committee on building of the Lord Mayor's Committee of St. Bartholomew's Hospital has again met at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor presiding. Alternative plans for the proposed improvements at the hospital were submitted by the architect, and considered together with reports on them by the Medical Council. The inquiry is now practically completed, but another meeting of the full Committee will be held at the Mansion House as early as possible in order to agree on a report. A new out-patients' section being imperatively necessary, it was decided by the Committee that this work ought first to be proceeded with. The estimated cost is about £100,000.

Princess Henry of Battenberg last week opened the Frank James Memorial Hospital at East Cowes. The place was built by Mr. James for a sailors' home, and subsequently presented to the Princess, who accepted the gift on the inhabitants undertaking its maintenance as a cottage hospital. At present there is provision for eight beds.

The Public Health Committee of the London County Council have recommended that the Council should promote the legislation of 1894 with regard to the compulsory cleansing or destruction of articles in an unwholesome condition, and the cleansing of dirty houses and rooms.

The number of workhouses where special provision is made for phthisical patients is yearly increasing.

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