

on the work, systematically arranged, consists of a head nurse to take entire charge of both departments, a senior nurse, two junior nurses, and two orderlies for the day service of the surgical department, and the same for the medical department, together with a senior nurse and two orderlies by night. A porter, a wardmaid, and a woman to wash the floors and care for the lavatory are also requisite. Bedmaking, sweeping, dusting, patients' toilets, serving of diets, and giving of all treatment follow in the accustomed manner.

The general health of the nurses improves very much, and it has been the policy to let as many as possible enjoy the benefit of a few weeks of tent life. As they themselves say, it is almost like having a vacation. They wear the training-school uniform, but are provided with sailor hats.

While the same department is expected as in other parts of the hospital, there is an especial air of cheerfulness pervading this department, showing the beneficence of sunshine and pure air. Among the patients an air of comfort prevails, and while it is not possible here to state exact results, it is safe to say that sufficient benefit is derived to more than justify the outlay.

Typhoid patients have in almost all instances convalesced rapidly, while surgical cases have proved anew the old doctrine that pure air is required for the prompt healing of wounds.

A practical side of the subject also is that by the removal of patients from two wards to the tents an opportunity has been given to renovate in succession five wards of thirty patients each during the summer months, making fresh accommodations for 150 patients.

A hospital having this tent system at its command is ready for an emergency; as, for example, during the Spanish-American war in August, 1898, the hospital was notified on Sunday to prepare for 202 soldiers who were to arrive on the following Thursday. This was accomplished, although it involved labour at the rate of 200 days for one man. This number of soldiers was cared for in tents until October, when they were removed to huts for warmer shelter, where they remained until the famous blizzard which visited the whole North Atlantic coast in November, 1898.

It was observed during the war that the largest proportion of recoveries was made by those patients treated out-of-doors, in tents and under trees; the next largest, those who were cared for in farm-houses and barns; while the smallest was of those who were taken to the large hospitals. From these observations we may draw our own conclusions.

About the middle of September the patients are returned to the wards and the tents removed. It is hoped much lasting benefit has been received, and that each patient may have many pleasant memories of his summer outing.

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses.

ANNUAL REPORT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30TH, 1904.

In presenting the Second Annual Report of the Society for the State-Registration of Trained Nurses, it is necessary to touch very briefly on the great amount of work which has been accomplished during the past year. When it is reported that upwards of 10,000 postal communications have been sent out from our office, and that only £14. 4s. 6d. has been spent upon clerical help, it will be realised that the work of our Society has been largely accomplished by voluntary labour.

By this means, and by the personal influence of many of our members, interest in State Registration has been aroused all over the United Kingdom, which, after due consideration of the question, we hope may ultimately produce a consensus of opinion in its favour.

During the year the Executive Committee has dealt with the work of the Society which has been of national importance. Two Special General Meetings have been held; the Parliamentary Bills Committee has met four times and has transacted an immense amount of business.

MEMBERSHIP.

Since the last Annual Meeting 470 applications for membership of the Society from Matrons and Certificated Nurses have been accepted, thus making a total of 1,205 since the formation of the Society two years ago. This is an encouraging result, and stimulates us to hope that large numbers of well-trained nurses, as they come to understand the aims and object of the Society, will continue in increasing numbers to give it their support. It is noteworthy that the list of members includes the names of nurses trained in nearly every important hospital and Poor Law infirmary, proving that the demand for Registration is confined to no section of the community, but is a general one on the part of certificated nurses who are free to join such a society.

There have been six resignations during the year.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The following ladies and gentlemen have consented to act as Vice-Presidents of the Society:—

Miss M. Heather-Bigg, Matron, Charing Cross Hospital.

Miss Elizabeth Fisher, Superintendent of Nurses, General Infirmary, Leeds.

Miss G. A. Rogers, Lady Superintendent Leicester Infirmary.

Miss Wade, Lady Superintendent Scottish Branch Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses.

Miss E. C. Sandford, late Lady Superintendent City Hospital, Edinburgh.

Miss Margaret Huxley, President Irish Nurses' Association.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)