

Bed-rooms and bath-rooms are *en suite*, and, indeed, those who remember the depressing quarters occupied by the Matron of this hospital in the past cannot but rejoice that, amongst all the wonderful improvements for the patients, the comfort of the nursing staff has also received the most kind personal interest of the Committee, and that the architect had not merely a utilitarian soul.

A tour of inspection proved that much of the fine old garden still remains, and the splendid Jubilee Block is placed at right angles to the main building, the handsome eighteenth century front of which has been preserved. The new wing is magnificent, and the principal wards are contained in a kingly round tower, to which on either side of a corridor are attached smaller wards, spacious kitchens, and sanitary blocks. Everyone seemed enthusiastic about these fine round wards, which contain eighteen beds each. First of all they are very light, and every scrap of sunshine is admitted. They are also airy; a central shaft to the ceiling, from which radiate handsome beams, contains open fireplaces, in which splendid fires can be built, the dancing flames reflected on the highly-polished floors, giving a cheery aspect to the ward.

The decoration is spring-like and delicate in tone. Walls and shaft are tiled to the ceiling. At the base a dado of gillyflower-brown runs round, headed by a line of primrose; the walls are white, the monotony of which is broken by a primrose frieze towards the top. A cheerful note of colour is added by a dash of crimson round the bed quilts and in the screen covers. The ward furniture is simple and aseptic, in so far as it is possible in consideration of personal comfort. The new ward kitchens are large, yet cosy—stove, dresser, cupboards, all complete; and great attention has been given to the hygienic details in arranging the sanitary blocks. The fine new theatre is the centre of constant and increasing operation work. But ward accommodation for the sick nowadays entails an extraordinary number of annexes. First and foremost comes the kitchen, and all those domestic offices which tend to make an efficient commissariat department. The food for officers, nurses, servants and patients has all to be prepared at separate times. This means a kitchen fitted with every modern and labour-saving appliance. At Nottingham the new kitchen is a model of its kind. Then comes the laundry, with all its wonderful methods of keeping thousands of pieces of linen clean and sweet, and numerous other departments.

Owing to the generosity of the Chairman, Sir Charles Seely, a large amount of ground has been acquired for hospital uses, and several very fine old mansions have been remodelled and made into an exceedingly spacious and comfortable Nurses' Home. This addition to the establishment is only just finished. The Homes are prettily placed on undu-

lating ground, faced with a fine stone terrace, which overlooks the nurses' bit of garden, and with a far-reaching view from every window. Times have indeed changed since the days when the nursing staff was tucked away in odd corners of the hospital, and home life almost an impossibility. A beautiful little mortuary chapel is attached to the *post-mortem* building, the linen used, we noticed, being of the finest and exquisitely embroidered. Indeed, we gathered from a few days' visit to the General Hospital, Nottingham, that the motto of the whole place was "Patients first," and we were glad to find that with the best of order nothing was sacrificed to smartness.

Personalities inevitably stamp themselves upon institutions, and who can gauge how far-reaching is the example of noble lives, who will deny that the personal interest, the genuine kindness, the noble generosity, all so modestly offered by the Chairman, are an inspiration to everyone with whom he comes in contact? In the nursing world we all know the Matron, Miss Knight; her gentle, yet strong personality, always quietly yet firmly going forward, an untiring worker, devoted to duty, and yet keeping herself well in touch with progress in the nursing world.

Then there are many devoted Sisters, who have given long years of good service to the institution—to say nothing of Sister Jessie, the untiring Assistant Matron, who just seems to be up and doing all day long, doing what comes to hand with all her heart. We own ourselves in tune with this strenuous spirit, and just wished to be a "pro." again, that we might join in the inspiring rush of work, in the performance of which there is, apparently, no time to think of self or of small deteriorating things; failing this we found being an honoured guest in this environment was the next best thing.

E. G. F.

£63,000 for the Hospitals.

In its thirty-second year, which ended October 31st last, the Metropolitan Hospital Fund collected £63,064, the collections in the various places of worship amounting to £47,912.

This, with the exception of the previous year, when the fund was augmented by the encouragement given by the visit of the King and Queen to St. Paul's, is the largest on record.

Mr. George Herring again added one-fourth to the amount collected in places of worship, his gift being £11,926; Mr. William Herring and Mr. Charles Morrison gave £1,000 each, and Sir Savile Crossley once more divided his contribution of £1,000 between this fund and the King's Fund.

It was decided at a recent meeting of the council that June 25th should be the date of next year's Hospital Sunday.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)