

full of dense suffocating smoke and heat from the fire immediately below, the nurse never left the patient, but by her presence of mind and courageous conduct enabled the patient to be carried out through the smoke and heat to the ground floor, whence he was removed to Chalmers Hospital. It was remitted to a Sub-Committee to consider if the heroic conduct of the nurse as well as of the firemen who distinguished themselves should not be recognised by the presentation of medals.

An interesting gathering took place recently in the drawing-room of the Nurses' Home, Steevens' Hospital, Dublin, when certificates were distributed to the successful members of the massage class, which was formed during the past year for the instruction of nurses in the Swedish system of massage, under the direction of Miss Studley, Principal of the Irish School of Massage. Dr. Isard occupied the chair. Miss Studley, in the course of an interesting address, dealt with the value of massage in many different classes of cases, and pointed out its great value, now generally recognised by members of the medical profession. She expressed her pleasure with the character and achievements of the first-class of nurses from Steevens' Hospital which she had trained. Dr. Isard, who presented the certificates to the successful candidates, emphasised the value of massage, and recommended all nurses who were able to qualify themselves in this branch. A vote of hearty thanks was proposed by Miss Kelly, Lady Superintendent of the Hospital, and President of the Irish Nurses' Association, to Dr. Isard for presiding. Dr. Isard, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, congratulated Miss Kelly on the success of her massage class as being one of her many successful efforts in the hospital.

The accounts of the legal proceedings in the police and other courts constantly published in the public press show conclusively the need for the establishment of a representative Nursing Council, to whom all questions of training, discipline, and other professional matters can be referred, and by whom a Register of Trained Nurses can be kept. Within the last week one nurse keeping a nursing home has been charged with abortion and other offences, and another has been co-respondent in a divorce case. It by no means follows that these women are trained nurses, but they are presented before the public in this guise, and are therefore presumed by it to be members of the nursing profession.

The Hospital World.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

The town of Tunbridge Wells is most picturesquely placed—and its old General Hospital, facing Grosvenor Road, a very handsome building. For many years very good work was done in this institution, but a few years ago it was realised that, within its restricted space, neither progress could be effected, nor efficiency maintained in caring for the sick, and then it was that the citizens rose to the occasion and built themselves two entirely new blocks, utilising the old building for administrative purposes.

As a delegate to the annual meeting of the National Council of Women, which met at this lovely town in Kent, we last week had an opportunity of seeing over the new blocks of the hospital, and were delighted with the inspection.

In the absence of the Matron, Miss A. M. Smith, her representative, though evidently exceedingly busy, was good enough to show us everything in the most courteous manner.

The Committee of the Hospital have wisely acquired space facing Goods Station Road and Meadow Road, so that should the needs of the district for hospital accommodation increase, a block can be added to the two now in full working order.

The first block alongside the administrative building contains the children's ward built over the outpatient and surgery departments, and we have no hesitation in saying it is the very prettiest ward for babes and children we have ever seen. From our illustration it will be gathered that the ward is rather square than long. Its walls are tiled to the ceiling, pale yellow in colour, with a soft green dado, and panelled with the most charming illustrations of fairy tales and nursery rhymes—the colouring is exquisite. The large latticed window at the end of the ward is quite unique—constructed somewhat in the shape of a screen; the ledges consist of white tiles—instead of wood—and can thus be easily kept clean. The cots are white, the floor covered with linoleum is highly polished and was pronounced to be much less fatiguing to feet than wood, and also much more quiet to step on. The bath-rooms and lavatories attached are white tiled and very cunning. The bath (child's size) is placed on rollers, so that it can be easily moved into the ward if necessary, and the closet seat is quite low and small, and much more comfortable for a child to use than the ordinary utensil.

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