

Gage, late matron of the Fletcher Convalescent Home, Cromer, after a short illness. Miss Gage entered the service of the Hospital as a trained nurse in 1895, and was appointed Matron of the Fletcher Convalescent Home in 1901. Throughout her term of office as Matron, Miss Gage fully maintained the Home in a high state of efficiency, whilst exercising the strictest economy. By her devotion to her duties, and by her untiring care for the welfare of the patients under her charge, Miss Gage endeared herself to all those with whom her work brought her in contact, and she is deeply regretted by a wide circle of friends.

The Hospital World.

THE HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, BRIGHTON.

We wonder how many of the thousands of happy holiday makers who pass up and down West Street, Brighton, between the station and the sea, take note of a nice old-fashioned house, used to relieve suffering women and plainly inscribed Lying-in Institution, Hospital, and Dispensary for Women and Children, or realise that it is the centre of an enormous amount of nursing work in Brighton and Hove. Owing to the impetus given to obstetric nursing by the Midwives' Act, hundreds of well-trained nurses are now anxious to obtain the midwifery certificate issued after a Central Examination by the Central Midwives' Board—a qualification the majority were quite content to ignore, so long as it carried with it no legal status. Such nurses must in the majority of instances seek their field of training outside our general hospitals, to which no maternity wards are attached. It becomes a question of importance where this experience shall be obtained, so that the pupil may receive a thoroughly good theoretical and practical experience; and as so many nurses consult this Journal as to which are efficient midwifery and maternity schools, we make a point of visiting those in provincial centres when we happen to be in the neighbourhood, so that we can give advice from personal experience. Thus quite recently we paid a visit to the Hospital for Women at Brighton, and were most courteously received and shown over the institution by the Matron, Miss S. L. Mumby, who was trained at the London Hospital, and there put in ten years good work as nurse and Sister.

The West Street Hospital contains eight beds in two wards, and admits only very urgent cases; the Matron acts as Sister in Charge, superintends the theatre work, and has thus a

very interesting post. In connection with the hospital, and all under the general management of the Matron, are a very busy Dispensing department, an extensive Midwifery district, with headquarters at Clydesdale House, the Training School for pupil midwives, with resident Sister in Charge, and a Private Nursing department, housed at Hove where the nurses can work on the co-operative system, if they choose, paying a 7½ percentage on their fees.

The institution was recognised by the Central Midwives' Board in 1905, as an approved Training School for Midwives, and the twenty-six openings for midwifery pupils are eagerly sought after; altogether forty pupils can be accommodated, including those who desire to qualify in maternity nursing.

The fees charged for midwifery pupils are, for three months' training 18 guineas; for four months, £21. A reduction of 3 guineas is made to fully-trained nurses. Separate bedrooms are charged 3 guineas extra. The fees include board, lodging, and tuition—*i.e.*, lectures by the Honorary Medical Staff, the house surgeon, and practical instruction by a qualified midwife. The pupils pay for their own washing and provide their own uniforms, each pupil must also have a mackintosh apron and thermometer. Nearly 1,000 cases of midwifery are attended in the district annually and the results of examination under the Central Midwives' Board have been highly creditable.

It has been suggested by hospital authorities in Brighton that to prevent overlapping some of the important surgical work for so many years carried on at West Street shall be transferred to the Sussex County Hospital, but so far this suggestion has not been carried out; on the other hand, the Committee of the Women's Hospital propose to rebuild the institution on a more convenient site on modern lines. As it is, the very best is made of the house as it stands; the wards we found very comfy and clean, and the theatre fitted to accomplish much practical work. We noticed several new appliances in it which would have aroused interest at the Nursing Exhibition, if there had only been space for a greater display.

The little hospital has an honourable record of seventy-six years' work for poor suffering women behind it, and trained nurses, anxious to qualify as midwives, cannot do better than secure admission to Clydesdale House. We feel sure Miss Mumby will be pleased to give all necessary information, and, after a long spell of work in the Metropolis, work in breezy Brighton would be a delightful and invigorating change.

E. G. F.

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