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Editorial.

THE NURSING SCHOOL AT THE SALPÊTRIÈRE.

Those nurses who during the Nursing Conference at Paris, in June attended the reception given by the Director General of the Assistance Publique at the Salpêtrière Hospital were immensely impressed with the opportunities afforded in its wards for the training of nurses, and the teaching facilities of its fine new College. It was also recognised how much depended on the plan of organisation adopted in connection with the new training school, and the place given under it to the Matron, or as she is to be called *Surveillante Générale*. This scheme is now made public, and we most heartily congratulate the Committee which for some time has had it under consideration on the admirable course founded on scientific principles which has been laid down, and the position accorded to the *Surveillante Générale*, an official, who, up to the present, with rare exceptions, is unknown in French hospitals.

THE OFFICE OF SURVEILLANTE GÉNÉRALE.

The Constitution of the Nursing School at the Salpêtrière provides that a *Surveillante Générale* shall be placed at its head. She will exercise her functions under the administrative control of the Director of the Salpêtrière, and will have under her direction the resident staff of the school. The pupils are placed under her direct authority, and she will be responsible for the good order and discipline of the school. She will arrange, direct and control the practical teaching given to the pupils in the wards, and superintend the courses and the studies in the school. In order that the practical and theoretical teaching may supplement each other, the professors, when arranging their courses of lectures, are asked to consult with the *Surveillante*

Chef as to the practical experience of the pupils in the wards, so that the lectures may illustrate their practical teaching, and each course comprise a theoretical and a practical side.

The School will be divided into two sections, the first and the second year. A *Surveillante* is to be placed at the head of each of these sections, who will assist the *Surveillante Générale* in her work of teaching in the School and in the wards.

It is also noteworthy as affording evidence of the status of the *Surveillante Générale* that doctors, inspectors, and officials of all kinds belonging to the Assistance Publique should, when they go to the school for official visits acquaint her with their presence, and be accompanied by her during their visits.

PROOF OF PRELIMINARY EDUCATION REQUIRED.

Before being considered eligible as a pupil, candidates must give proof of their general knowledge to a Board of Examiners which includes the *Surveillante Générale*. The examination will include dictation, which affords evidence of the candidate's writing and spelling, reading, two arithmetical problems bearing on the four rules, fractions and the metric system. Failure in any of these four subjects disqualifies the candidate.

Pupils receive board, lodging, washing and uniform, and a small salary during their training. They must be not less than 18 or more than 25 on admission, except in the case of those who have already been five years in the service of the Assistance Publique when the age limit is extended to 30.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

The course of instruction which is a very complete one, includes elementary anatomy and physiology, hygiene,

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