

thoroughly investigated by the Hon. Secretary, Miss Ethel McCaul, R.R.C.; Inspector-General Sir Herbert Ellis, R.N., K.C.B., and Major Ferguson, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., and when a nurse is sent out his qualifications are plainly stated on the form which he takes to his employer.

The Co-operation is launched under most auspicious conditions, as the Queen is Patroness, and it has, besides, the support of the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Secretary of State for War, Lord Roberts, Sir Douglas Powell, President of the Royal College of Physicians, and other distinguished persons. It has an excellent office and a large and pleasant waiting-room for the men, but Miss McCaul is very desirous that a home, in which a proportion, at least, of the men can live, should be acquired without delay. It is to establish this home that the committee is appealing for £2,000, and though donations are coming in—the largest being a welcome gift of £200 from Lady Wantage, recently received—many more are needed.

Miss McCaul, whose heart is set on making the Co-operation a success, believes the home would be a great factor in this, and senior men on the staff hold the same opinion. It is difficult to keep in touch with men living in various parts of London, and also to ensure their prompt despatch to cases.

Another object of the Co-operation is to supply orderlies for work in military hospitals abroad in time of war, so that the employment of untrained men may be checked. No one who had experience of this method in the South African War wishes to see it again repeated. No more efficient reserve could be formed than from the handy men, whose courage, fortitude, endurance, and cheerfulness have made them the pride of the nation, and from those who already know the routine of nursing in military hospitals. It was a happy inspiration to gather these men together, so that their valuable training should not be lost to the community on their return to civil life, and should be at the service of their country should war be declared.

Men who have not had the full period of training now prescribed, can be supplied as travelling attendants, valets, and personal servants, and hospital porters and other institution workers are also obtainable.

The Reception given by the Colonial Nursing Association on Wednesday last at the Imperial Institute, S.W., was a very successful and delightful gathering. The effect will doubtless be to increase the interest taken in the work of this most useful Association.

Preliminary Training for Nurses.

We are informed by Miss Rogers, Lady Superintendent, Leicester Infirmary, that the first residential preliminary training course for nurses out of London was started in connection with the Leicester Infirmary in 1904, and that after a year's trial, it was decided that it should form part of the recognised curriculum. It has now been in full working order for over two years, so that the Royal Infirmary, Bristol, has the honour of being second in this very good work. The following syllabus gives a general outline of the course.

LEICESTER INFIRMARY, 1905.

PREPARATORY COURSE.—TWO MONTHS.

Probationers on entrance are put under the Assistant Matron, who, with one of the Senior Certificated Nurses to help her, superintends all their work, both in the wards and in class.

So far as is possible, the Probationers are taught their work first in class, the best methods of doing it, and the reasons for the same being explained to them—i.e., a demonstration on bed-making, or poultice-making, will first be given by the teacher, and the Probationers will then be required to practise in class. These classes for demonstration and practice are held daily.

Four days a week short lectures are given on nursing, hygiene, materials used in wards, cost of same, etc.

Two days a week on elementary anatomy and physiology.

Bandaging classes are held weekly.

On two afternoons Probationers are taught to pad splints, make T bandages, binders, and other appliances, to roll plaster of Paris bandages, etc.

On Saturdays they have instruction in the counting, putting away, and mending of ward linen.

The morning work is arranged as follows:—

Work in Wards from 7.45 to 10.

Demonstrations, 11 to 12.30.

Lectures, 12.30 to 1.30.

In the evening one hour is given for study; three-quarters of an hour for writing answers to questions on class work. The rest of the time is given to work in the wards, settling patients for the night, taking temperatures; with more advanced nursing during the second month.

Subjects Taught during First Month.

WORK IN WARDS.

First week.—Ward Kitchens.—Washing up; cleaning sinks, taps, tins, etc.; polishing metals and furniture; washing paint, etc.; dusting of wards.

Second week.—Lavatories.—Cleansing of crockery, Glass shelves, sinks, basins, baths; care of tank; carbolicising bedsteads; preparing bedding for stoving.

Third week.—Probationers go to wards early, and are taught to sweep and make beds;

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