

The 28 probationers undergoing their first year of training live in the Nurses' Home, under the immediate supervision of the second Assistant Matron or Home Sister. They have their own recreation-room, where also classes and lectures are held. The second and third year probationers have a separate recreation-room, comfortably furnished, and possessing an excellent library, kept up by the payment of a small monthly subscription. The first year probationers are not asked to help to maintain this library, as it is considered that during their first year they should devote themselves seriously to the study of professional subjects.

The following is a brief syllabus of the lectures and classes given to probationers during their three years' training at the St. Marylebone Infirmary:—

FIRST YEAR.

One class each week on Anatomy and Physiology. Systems studied:—Osseous, Muscular, Digestive, Circulatory, Absorptive, Respiratory, Excretory, Nervous.

One class each week on Bandaging and Theatre work.

One class each week on General Nursing, Appliances, etc.

Each class lasts one hour.

All classes for first year Probationers are given by the Home Sister.

Test examinations, both written and verbal, are given by the Matron and Medical Superintendent every three or four months.

SECOND YEAR.

One class each week on General Nursing, Anatomy, and Physiology. Ward Management and Etiquette given by the Matron and Home Sister.

One lecture each week on Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery, Medicine, and Bacteriology given by the Medical Superintendent, Mr. Lunn.

Test examinations every six months.

THIRD YEAR.

One class each week on General Nursing, Anatomy, and Physiology given by the Matron and Home Sister.

One lecture each week on Surgery, Diseases, Anatomy, Physiology, etc., given by Mr. Lunn.

A few classes on Sick Cookery, given by the Home Sister.

One class each week on Theatre Work and Instruments, given by the Theatre Sister.

Test examinations given every six months.

FINAL EXAMINATION.

Final examination at the end of third year on Anatomy, Physiology, General Nursing, Bandaging, and Theatre Work, conducted by outside examiners. The theoretical and practical work by Dr. Hawkins, of St. Thomas's Hospital; the bandaging by Dr. Elliot Browne, Chairman of the Infirmary Visiting Committee.

With the above theoretical course, the individual attention given to each pupil, and the experience obtained by three years

systematic training in wards containing 744 beds and 24 cots, it will be seen that the school affords excellent facilities to those who desire a thorough training in nursing. The pupils also have ample opportunity of instruction in operation work, as from four to six of them attend all operations in the theatre, of which there are about 400 annually. The theatre is very up-to-date in every respect, and most of the senior probationers spend their last six weeks or two months there. The Sisters in charge of the four surgical floors take it in turn to act as Theatre Sister for six months at a time, and all Sisters have also the opportunity of doing Night Superintendent's duties for a year.

The supervision of the practical work in this great infirmary—in the wards, the kitchen, the laundry, the linenry, besides the training of the probationers, must make great demands on the organising ability of the Matron, but everywhere under the supervision of Miss Cockrell there is evidence of that system and order which are always the basis of effective work. To mention one detail, in each of the wards the position of the furniture, appliances, etc., is the same, so that a probationer moved from one ward to another knows at once where she will find things. The bathrooms are models of neatness and convenience, and some of the corridors have ample cupboard accommodation. It seems a strange fact that hospital architects rarely appear to realise that one of the first necessities, from the point of view of the nursing and domestic staff, is plenty of cupboard room, and almost invariably this has to be added.

Each ward at the Marylebone Infirmary has its own spacious kitchen, and there is also a day room for the use of convalescents, which results in the wards being kept quiet for the more acute cases.

It was sad to see one ward devoted entirely to cases of tuberculosis, and one could only hope for the day when, by the widespread adoption of sanitary regulations, this preventable disease may be entirely abolished.

On the walls of the nurses' sitting-room are an interesting series of pictures, groups of the successive classes of probationers who have passed through the training school. From the first group onwards the Medical Superintendent, Mr. Lunn, who takes a keen interest in this branch of the work, and the Matron, are included in the photograph, for twenty years Mr. Lunn is depicted standing, but the photographs of the last few years show him seated, as if, after instructing so many generations of probationers, he now feels entitled to take life a little more leisurely.

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