

They then attend a class on practical nursing till 11.30, when they are either engaged in sick room cookery or in keeping up stock until 12.15. Dinner, and a quarter of an hour off duty, occupy the time from 12.15 till one o'clock, when an hour is devoted to study. At 2 o'clock the pupils go off duty, either from 2—3 p.m. or 2—5 p.m., taking alternate days. From 3—5 p.m. those on duty attend to the stock, pad splints, and prepare dressings, pads, and sponges. Tea is from 5 o'clock to 5.30 p.m., and from 5.30 to 7 p.m. there is a class on anatomy, physiology, or hygiene. From 7 to 9 p.m. is devoted to study; supper is at 9 o'clock, chapel at 9.30 p.m. The pupils are in their rooms at 10 o'clock, and lights are out by 10.45 p.m.

The teaching during the course is given by the Sisters in the Home, and the final examination lasts several days.

The drilling which the pupils receive in the Home is beneficial in two ways. Those who prove quite unsuitable are weeded out before entering the wards, and their acquaintance with underlying principles, and with the elements of practical work, makes those passed into the hospital useful to some extent at once, and so the ward work runs more smoothly. No hospitals which have once had experience of the benefits which follow the institution of a preliminary school, would return to the old system of admitting probationers on trial to the wards at once.

It rests with the Matron to determine at the end of the course whether the probationer shall continue her training. If she is admitted to the wards, she is on probation for a further period of three months, and is placed for a month in a medical and a month in a surgical ward. If she gets a thoroughly satisfactory report from the Sister of each ward, she may be allowed to sign her agreement at the end of two months. More often she serves for another month, and during this period the Matron may at any time terminate her engagement.

SPECIAL TRAINING.

During their three years' training, generally early, many of the probationers receive instruction in massage free, and the hospital authorities also pay their examination fee. In return for these benefits, they are expected to undertake such massage as may be required of them in the wards.

A number of Guy's nurses also obtain their maternity training, being allowed six weeks absence from the wards in order to obtain their cases in connection with the District Maternity attached to the hospital. During this time they pay a fee of £10 10s. They then return

to the hospital and work in the maternity wards, and go up for the examination of the Central Midwives' Board.

It will be seen, therefore, that Guy's Hospital offers very substantial advantages in the way of training to members of the nursing staff.

INSTRUCTION IN ADMINISTRATIVE WORK.

The hospital authorities also offer opportunities to accepted candidates, holding a certificate of three years' training in a general hospital of not less than 200 beds, and who have subsequently had experience as Ward Sisters, of instruction in administrative work. The fee for the course, which extends over three months, is eighteen guineas, and it comprises instruction in housekeeping in hospital and nurses' home; the management of kitchens and stores; the ordering and receiving of milk, meat, etc., from trademen; the management of servants and their work; the cooking and serving of diets to patients and staff; laundry work; the management of linen stores, including stock-taking, and book-keeping; and the management of the Matron's office, including the engagement of probationers and servants.

M. B.

Practical Points.

Writing in the *American Journal of Nursing*, Miss Marguerite Parke says:—

The Continuous Hand Bath. For cellulitis of the hand or forearm, a continuous bath has been constructed, which is approved of and used very extensively by the surgeons of Roosevelt Hospital, New York City.

The bath consists of a granite or enamel tub, measuring about two feet in length and one foot in width; the depth may vary, although it is generally about nine inches, just about deep enough to immerse the hand and forearm.

The tub rests upon brackets, swung within an iron frame wide enough to receive it, and about the height of the bed. On a shelf under the tub rests the electric heater attached to the general circuit by the usual electric wire. By means of this heater the solution in the tub is kept at the required temperature, usually 112 degs. Fahr.

The patient is brought to the side of the bed corresponding to the infected member, and propped on pillows or a back-rest with pillows, although the former method insures greater comfort. If a rubber cushion especially designed for the head of the tub, on which to rest the arm, is not procurable, one may be improvised by means of a hot water bag filled partly with warm water, partly with air.

The immersion in the solution, which is generally sterile saline, may be continuous, or may last from an hour and a half to two hours, when a rest is given the infected member, after which it is immersed again.

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