

tion with them seemed rather small and overcrowded with fixtures.

There is a large outdoor department, to which patients are admitted free.

The Infirmary has an honorary staff of between 20 and thirty physicians and surgeons, and the indoor staff consists of 16 residents.

The nursing staff numbers over 100. These consist of a Lady Superintendent, an Assistant Superintendent, 15 Sisters, and 88 nurses and probationers. This is the permanent staff; for special cases nurses from the Nurses' Homes in the town are sometimes employed. The training for nurses is for four years. Fourth year nurses are called "staff nurses." The Sisters are chosen from nurses trained at the Infirmary.

The nurses spend several months during their training at the semi-convalescent home belonging to the Infirmary; here the life is not so strenuous as at Leeds.

During her first and second years, a probationer is required to attend a course of lectures on anatomy and physiology, surgery, medicine, and elementary hygiene. She must pass an examination in each subject, or receive a modified certificate at the end of her training. The certificate shows both the practical and theoretical work. Miss Fisher remarked that "often the most practical nurses are poor at theory and *vice versa* in a greater degree, and that the fairest way was to let theory and practice go hand in hand."

Nurses trained at the Leeds General Infirmary get some of the best posts in the nursing world. The rules and regulations for nurses state that "candidates must be well educated, active, industrious, thoroughly trustworthy, and of unexceptional character; age between 22 and 30."

There are numbers of applications, but the right sort of probationer is always welcomed. Each nurse and probationer has a bedroom to herself in the comfortable Nurses' Home, which is joined on to the hospital by a covered way. The housekeeper's post is a permanent one, and she need not necessarily be a nurse. A *chef* rules the kitchen; he is assisted by six women; they have at the rate of about 100 persons each to cook for.

The Infirmary owns its own laundry; this is in charge of a Laundry Matron. The washing is done here for the convalescent home as well as for the Infirmary staff and patients.

The latest addition to the Infirmary is a Lady Almoner, who spends the greater part of three days in the institution each week.

The Leeds Infirmary is noted for retaining its staff. Miss Fisher, the Lady Superintendent, has been there for 20 years, and she is

not the oldest inhabitant by a long way. The housekeeper, who retired a year ago, had been at her post for 33 years.

Miss Fisher believes that both nurses and patients will benefit by State Registration, and she will welcome the day when all fully trained nurses will have their position better defined.

If fate is kind, I will some day write an article on "Matrons I have Met," and bring the Lady Superintendent of Leeds General Infirmary in under another name. But, until then, I must not discuss her in print. Miss Fisher comes from North of the Tweed, and if she suspected me of "blarney," I would not have a chance of describing the semi-convalescent home in connection with the Leeds General Infirmary, of which Miss Fisher is also Superintendent.

Last year the Infirmary sustained a great loss in the death Mr. Thomas Blair, who for many years was the General Manager. His successor is Mr. Bray.

To the Board of Management, and to the General Manager, no less than to the medical, surgical, and nursing staff, is due the popularity and usefulness of the General Infirmary at Leeds.

### Pension Scheme.

The fourth annual meeting of the Pension Scheme for male employees of Cadbury Bros., Ltd., Bournville, was recently held at Bournville. The membership is now about 2,000. The balance-sheet shows accumulations in the fund of £106,000, which includes the sum of £55,000 paid by the Company on account of their special donation for the back service of old employees. An announcement was made to the meeting that the Company was now paying another £5,000 of this donation. The investment of the fund is all in securities outside the Company's business. The contributions of members and Company are now about £14,000 per annum, the proportion paid by the Company being slightly in excess of that paid by members. The scheme was adopted after taking the advice of the highest actuarial authority, and is therefore based on the soundest lines. We congratulate this great cocoa-firm on its paternal interest in the workers. Such co-operation is a sure basis of success.

### Medical Congress in London.

The seventy-eighth annual meeting of the British Medical Association will take place in London in the month of July. The annual representative meeting, which precedes the Congress, will be held at the Guildhall, and the programme includes a service in Westminster Abbey. The president will be Sir William Whitla, and the president-elect is Mr. H. T. Butlin.

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