

are no corners anywhere. This hospital, which was only built six years ago, seems to have all the modern improvements.

The tables in the centre of the wards are decorated with cut flowers and pot plants. The necessary equipments to a surgical ward are kept well out of sight.

The hospital is intended for diseases peculiar to women, and the cases in the large wards are nearly all those of gynaecological operations. There is one small maternity ward of five beds in charge of a Staff Nurse. This ward is generally occupied by women sent in by doctors in Leeds, and there is a large percentage of abnormal cases. The nurses have training in monthly nursing here, but not midwifery.

The children's ward is bright and rather small. The cases admitted to it are little girls or boys suffering from medical diseases; no surgical cases are treated. Boys over six years are not admitted to the hospital either as in or outdoor patients.

Most of the patients in the hospital are drawn from the large outdoor department, which is open every day except Saturday and Sunday, and quite free.

There are two resident surgeons, one of whom is generally a lady. The patients seem grateful for a doctor of their own sex. The honorary staff consists of six physicians and surgeons, most of them well known in the West Riding as specialists.

The nursing staff are four Sisters, six Staff Nurses, and six probationers. Sisters and Staff Nurses have had three years' training in general nursing.

The training for probationers is one year; afterwards most of them go to general hospitals for their three years' course.

The hospital is intended for acute cases, the patients staying from three to four weeks after operations. The training and experience for nurses in the care of cases of abdominal surgery is very good.

The Nurses' Home is in what was once the old hospital; it is, therefore, not so convenient in some ways as a house built for the purpose. Each Sister has a bedroom to herself. A large room is shared by three nurses. The Matron's sitting-room also belonged originally to the hospital, which accounts for its size.

Miss Wreford is the most up-to-date of modern working women. She is keenly interested in philanthropic work outside the hospital, and in all that makes for beauty and the betterment of the race. In the same hour she will discuss eugenics and "the poetry of a beautiful building"; she talks equally well on the news of the nursing world and the result of the General Election, and she believes

that a nurse's outlook should be wide enough to make her take an interest in present-day politics and all affairs of State.

On the Committee of the Women's and Children's Hospital are some of the most philanthropic people in Leeds. Perhaps there is no more useful person connected with the hospital than the Secretary and Collector, Mr. George Blackwell.

One left the Women's and Children's Hospital feeling grateful to science for its wonderful alleviation of suffering. At the same time there was a thought at the back of one's mind that this beautiful institution and the £4,000 that it costs annually would not be needed if the public, and especially the patients in its wards, once grasped the idea that it was more logical to preserve health than to restore it.

Snooks: Sketched from Life.

His right name is Alexander, and anyone more belying the name (which at once to our minds suggests greatness and strength) it would be difficult to imagine. He was a patient in one of the city hospitals, a victim of hip-joint disease, aged 13, very undersized, with bent back, arms, and legs like spindles, and the most angelic countenance in the world. This had wrought havoc in the hearts of the Sister and nurses of the ward to such an extent that, when the fiat went forth that Snooks must return to his home, they were led to specially interest a lady visitor in him, who promised to see what could be done.

This lady knew of our little hospital in the country, and after some preliminaries we agreed to receive Snooks for a short time, to see if change of air would improve his condition.

The hospital doctor, when writing giving the history of the case, had mentioned casually that the cognomen of Snooks had been bestowed by a facetious junior medico.

Home to Snooks just spelled neglect. His most vivid impression of it was of being shut in alone with the baby for hours together; almost all the kindness he remembered he had received from strangers, so that his nature opened readily to them, and his frankness won all hearts.

I went to meet Snooks at the station, and found him lying full length on the carriage seat, a label pinned conspicuously on his chest, bearing the words: "Snooks.—This side up, with care," put there by the nurse who had prepared him for the journey.

This joke was Snooks' great asset; he was never tired of retailing it to everyone with whom he came in contact afterwards.

Snooks was our only stranger; the other patients belonged to the neighbourhood, so had their friends in on visiting days; but Snooks claimed them all as his property, too; and, between them all, he was in danger of getting thoroughly spoiled.

He had arrived with a purse "containing twopence" (and felt a veritable Croesus), but pennies,

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