

of mental nurses, to encourage persons of high mental and moral intelligence to enter this branch of the nursing profession in sufficient numbers, to meet the very urgent needs of those most sad cases.

*Third.* State Registration of mental nurses, after a carefully prescribed training to include a thorough elementary knowledge of general sick nursing.

*Fourth.* Women medical inspectors in all asylums, public and private, and in licensed houses.

In our opinion, further protection of insane and feeble minded persons is a question of urgent public importance. We express this opinion from personal experience in connection with two cases which have come under our personal observation quite recently. It is now far too easy to place patients under restraint, and as we have no legal standard of nursing efficiency, the habit of permitting absolutely untrained persons to be placed in positions of responsibility in the care of borderland cases is scandalous. It is presumable that evidence of a very useful character in this connection will be brought before the Select Committee to which Lord Wolmer's Asylums Officers (Employment, Pensions, and Superannuation) Bill has been referred.

The annual distribution of prizes to the nurses at the Highgate Hill Infirmary took place last week. Mrs. Leonard Marshall (Chairman of the Infirmary Committee) was in the chair, and there were present Mr. T. F. Bryen, and other members of the Board of Guardians, the Medical Superintendent (Dr. A. H. Robinson), the Matron (Miss A. E. Little), and others.

The prizes are derived (1) from the interest on £75 bequeathed by a former patient for the benefit of the nurses, and (2) from the interest on £100 given by Mrs. Leonard Marshall, who has also given an extra £5 in prizes this year in honour of the Coronation.

The prizes were distributed by Miss Stansfeld, Superintendent Inspector under the Local Government Board.

*Smalley Prizes.*—Misses Kathleen Dargon and Ellen May Carter (tie), 1st; Daisy Edmondson, 2nd; May Stoequeter, 3rd.

*Leonard Marshall Prizes.*—Misses Rachel Fergusson, 1st; Alice Davis, 2nd; Lydia Roberts, 3rd; Frances Ives, 4th.

Miss Stansfeld, in a much appreciated speech, suggested that there was a tendency on the part of nurses to think too little of what was going on in the outside world, and too much of their daily routine.

## The Hospital World.

### THE NURSES' HOME, LEICESTER INFIRMARY.

Nurses who received their training thirty years ago, when the accommodation provided for them was primitive in the extreme in most hospitals, when privacy either by day in the one sitting room, or by night in the bedroom shared by several, was almost impossible of attainment, could scarcely have supposed it possible that the home of their dreams would materialise in bricks and mortar during the present generation. Yet the "Edward Wood" Nurses' Home at the Leicester Infirmary, erected by Sir Edward Wood and the Board of Governors in connection with the reconstruction and improvement of the Infirmary embodies every convenience which a nurse can need or desire. Spacious corridors open into rooms devoted to recreation, to rest, to work, to writing, furnished in perfect taste according to their several purposes. The Recreation Room with its platform at one end, most beautifully decorated with spring flowers growing in moss-covered pots on the occasion of the recent visit of the Matrons' Council, will seat some 140 people. The separate sitting-rooms for staff nurses and probationers, furnished with a thoughtfulness in which comfort is combined with simplicity of design are models of what such rooms should be. The deep couches and chairs, most of them made on the premises, invite repose, the useful tables have a special distinction of their own, the "Dryad" chairs made of cane, examples of which may be seen in our illustration, are both good to look upon and extraordinarily comfortable to occupy, while polished floors of a composite material, deep red in colour, partially covered with well chosen rugs, and beautiful engravings on the walls combine to make a most harmonious whole.

But besides the sitting rooms, the nurses have the use of a library, containing both a reference and recreation library, in which silence is enjoined, and which is fitted up with every convenience for writing. Every nurse has a bedroom to herself, there is accommodation for 100, and each bedroom is furnished by a different donor, special gifts having been provided for this purpose. The dining-room with its numerous tables is delightful, and has a hot plate at one end for serving, and hot cupboards below for keeping plates warm.

Most interesting is the room set apart for the instruction of the pupils in the Preliminary School, where from six to eight probationers are usually in training. Each pupil is provided

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