

required, opportunities are also given for observation of special nursing, and visits are arranged to various institutions.

This abstract gives but a faint idea of the scope of the course and how much one's grasp on things has been widened and deepened. Life must always be fuller for this experience. I only wish that some of you could arrange to take it."

Miss Ada J. Senhouse, one of the fraternal delegates of the National Association of Coloured Graduate Nurses in the United States at the Cologne Congress, and who since that time has been a subscriber to this JOURNAL, writes, in renewing her subscription, "I cannot tell you how much I value your JOURNAL. It seems to inspire one to do one's very best for the nursing profession."

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

THE LAMBETH INFIRMARY S.E.

One of the older infirmaries of London, the Lambeth Infirmary, lies hidden in a maze of streets between Westminster Bridge and Newington Butts. Just before one arrives there one passes an undertaker's shop which—so prominent notices in the window assure one—has no connection with any firm or persons who tout at the gates for orders for funerals, and, further, that the proprietor has a private mortuary where bodies may lie free of cost; evidence that of those who enter the infirmary many remain until carried out to their last resting place, and one is glad to see on all sides evidence of the skill, and kindly care, which those worsted in the hard struggle for bare existence receive when, weak and ill, they are admitted to this great State Hospital of nearly 700 beds, for that in truth is what our poor law infirmaries are nowadays.

The principal object of a recent visit to the infirmary was to see the new annexe to the Nurses' Home, and indeed it is a building of which the guardians may well be proud. The walls of the central hall and staircase have a dado of terazzo, and above soft green panels on a primrose background. There are 28 new bedrooms in all and two bathrooms on each floor. The bedrooms though simply furnished are charming and most harmonious, the walls being of a light green colour, and the furniture painted in a darker tone of the same colour, a most pleasant and restful effect being the result. The Sisters' rooms are larger and the furniture includes a comfortable arm-chair and an escritoire.

One must not forget the flat roof of the Home, and its view—such a view—with the dome of Bethlem, pointing skyward, dominating this ancient foundation, within whose walls so much tragedy has been concentrated, but where skill and science are working hand in hand to relieve and cure that most terrible form of illness, disease of the mind; to the right the great dome of St. Paul's and on one's left the Clock Tower at Westminster. Not many London hospitals can boast such a view.

The nurses' sitting-room in the older part of the Home, through which access is now obtained to the new wing, is a large and pleasant room, comfortably furnished.

The very most is made of the bridges uniting different parts of the building. Here phthisical patients lie in the open, and look well and sunburnt, but many of those received in the infirmary are unfortunately in the advanced stages, and little can be done for them except to ameliorate their condition as much as possible, and it is satisfactory to reflect that at least, while receiving every care, they are removed from their crowded homes, and so from spreading infection.

In the wards where specific diseases are received the nurses work in rubber gloves, and are carefully instructed in regard to the danger of infection and the precautions which are necessary.

It is quite evident that in all the wards the visits of the Matron, Miss Byles, are much appreciated, as she passes through with a kindly word for many of the patients, and shows an intimate knowledge of their illnesses, and their personal concerns.

The nurses in the infirmary are trained for three years, and if they decide to stay for a fourth year, they have the advantage of midwifery training, enabling them to obtain the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board. They obtain their practical work at the work-house, and have their lectures in the infirmary. In the last two years, since this course has been established, 23 nurses have entered for the examination, and all have passed—an excellent record which speaks well for the supervision and instruction given by the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Baly, and all concerned in teaching the pupil midwives, whether theoretically or practically. It seems likely however that with the payment of the Maternity Benefit under the National Insurance Act fewer women will enter the infirmary for the birth of their children, and this may affect the training possibilities.

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