

THE HOME LIFE OF NURSES.

M. André Mesureur, "Chef du Service de la Direction d'Administration Générale de l'Assistance Publique" in Paris has contributed a most interesting article to *L'Hygiène*—a sumptuous monthly review—entitled "Suitable Provision for Our Nurses." It is a strong plea that the nurses who devote themselves to their patients during their hours on duty, shall be properly housed at other times in a home apart from the hospital wards. M. Mesureur gives a delightful account of the Henriette Raphael Nurses' Home at Guy's Hospital, London, and wonders what Thomas Guy, the founder of the

her, and is a testimony to which Londoners can direct attention, in proof of the provision made for the comfort of those nurses who give their intelligence and their knowledge to the sick.

Contrasted with this, M. Mesureur describes how, not long ago, in an old Parisian hospital, there were to be found "lamentable boxes," where those serving in the wards by day slept in a corner of the same ward at night. Ill-protected by a worm-eaten partition, they breathed, during sleep, infected air, and they had as their horizon the ward, the last refuge of many human wrecks, broken by old age, worn out by hard work. These boxes have now disappeared, they are only a bad memory; gradually also there are disappearing the un-



FÊTE GIVEN BY THE NURSING STAFF, HOSPITAL DE LA PITIÉ, PARIS.

hospital, would think were he to find at the back of the cold façade of his hospital, this charming and luxurious home. He is enthusiastic concerning the imposing dining room and the sitting-rooms where, hidden in the silence of their familiar nooks, are deep arm-chairs, a most desirable retreat in which to isolate oneself from the turmoil of the great city. There is even, he records, in the basement, a luxury unknown in France, a swimming bath, affording recreation after the day's work. He tells further how this Home was opened eleven years ago by the then Prince and Princess of Wales (the late King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra), and was a memorial to a wife, too soon removed, in gratitude to those who had served

attractive rooms met with in the hospitals, so numerous that it will take a long time, and much money, to suppress, replace and transform all of them. The personnel of a hospital, M. Mesureur claims, should be housed in a separate building, and shortly this will be realised at least in the hospitals of the "Assistance Publique" in Paris, which has already spent millions on the housing of its employees.

It is the principle of order and organization which is necessary in a hospital, as everywhere else.

M. Mesureur pleads earnestly for the extension of such provision for nurses throughout the country, which he claims is necessary from the moral, material, and professional

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