

Miss Hall, the Matron, is taking a well-earned rest, so I was received and hospitably entertained by her *locum tenens*, Miss Annie Hulme, Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council. The adaptation of the hospital to suit the new requirements has been a work necessitating considerable organizing skill, besides tact and prudence, as the management is now under the control of both civil and military authorities; the Matron and Secretary are to be congratulated upon the harmony of the result. The Secretary, Mr. Willoughby Bullock, is perhaps one of the busiest men in England just now. A man of great versatility and energy, he combines with his office the patriotic work of recruiting volunteers for the St. John Ambulance Brigade; he very kindly found time, however, to conduct me over the building, which is a triumph of ingenuity in its present form. There have been many serious cases, but most of them had responded to good nursing and were then convalescent. In the evening they amuse themselves with a gramophone and harmonium. From all appearances they are very well cared for in every respect. The hospital suits of royal blue, lined with white, gave a bright touch of colour to the wards, and looked very warm and comfortable as the men sat round a glowing fire. The wards are airy, spacious, and well lighted.

Stretched out in front of the fire in the commodious kitchen lay "Flora," the Great Dane, the cook's devoted friend and companion, and the faithful guardian of the hospital. Flora is herself a convalescent, having recently had pneumonia, and been carefully nursed by her! The colour scheme of the wards and passages is a distemper of pale canary, with a dado of dark green, which gives a soft and pretty effect. The Nurses' Home for the present is detached from the main building; additions to the staff have naturally been necessary.

The sight of an old Martello tower on the front gave a comfortable feeling of security as one looked out to sea and thought of invasion, which we earnestly trust will never become an actuality.

The Secretary would be glad to hear of or from any new subscribers. £3,300 are required for the annual support of the hospital, but the assured income does not exceed £172—a mathematical problem.

BEATRICE KENT.

THE LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

A General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital

Nurses was held in the Clinical Theatre, St. Bartholomew's Hospital on Saturday, December 5th. The President, Miss Cox-Davies, who came in the uniform of a Principal Matron, T.F.N.S., was warmly applauded on taking the chair.

The minutes having been confirmed the President said that two questions arose out of them, namely:—(1) It had been left to the Executive Committee to decide what sum should be placed to the Isla Stewart Memorial Fund, and £10 had been donated; (2) The effect of the War on the proposed Congress of the International Council of Nurses at San Francisco. As Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was present, she invited her to report on this point. Mrs. Fenwick in a brief speech said that

the War had intimately affected trained nurses in many ways. Nothing would be absolutely settled about the Congress until the International Officers in the United States met in the New Year, but the National Council of Trained Nurses in this country had decided to recommend that the meeting and Congress of International Council of Nurses should be postponed until 1916 or later.

The next business was to receive accounts from members re No. 1 General Hospital, T.F., Experiences at the War, and with the Belgian Refugees.

The President gave an account of No. 1 General Hospital and of the difficulties contended with in



"FLORA," THE FAITHFUL GUARDIAN OF THE MILITARY RECEPTION HOSPITAL.

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