

There are two kitchens, one for the preparation of Mohammedan and the other of Hindu food, and here we saw busy black hands deftly moulding the dough of which the chupratis are made, rolling it into the thin cakes so familiar to those who have lived in the East, and cooking them on hot iron plates. Rice boiled so that every grain was separate, a process rarely achieved in this country; milk soup, savoury soup made of pulse, ghee (butter clarified by boiling), and coarse brown sugar, which, with other condiments, are made into delectable little balls; all these showed the cleverness of the Indian cooks.

Next we peeped into the Sisters' quarters, where nearly every Sister has a spacious and comfortable bedroom; the dining room has an open roof, and the divisions are of fibrous, fireproof plaster. The Matron has her own special sitting-room through that of the Sisters, and there is a room set apart, as a sick room in case of need.

There are well supplied stores which can be drawn on, and what are known as Pack Stores, where the patients' clothes, after disinfection, are stored until they leave the hospital.

Mention must also be made of the laboratory, that essential centre of every modern hospital, where science reveals her secrets to the seeker after truth.

We must not omit to mention that beds can be endowed in this hospital, and one bears the interesting inscription, "This bed is equipped by the workmen employed in the construction of the Lady Hardinge Hospital in remembrance of a pleasant job."

The medical staff of the hospital includes Lieut.-Col. F. F. Perry, C.I.E., F.R.C.S., I.M.S.; Lieut.-Col. C. H. L. Meyer, M.D., I.M.S.; Lieut.-Col. W. H. Burke, M.B., I.M.S.; Lieut.-Col. M. A. T. Collie, M.B., I.M.S.; Lieut.-Col. J. B. Gibbons, I.M.S.; Lieut.-Col. H. Herbert, F.R.C.S., I.M.S.; Lieut.-Col. J. B. Jameson, M.B., I.M.S.; Lieut.-Col. H. B. Melville, M.B., I.M.S.; Major E. O. Thurston, M.B., F.R.C.S., I.M.S.; and Lieut. H. C. G. Semon, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., I.M.S. (temporary commission).

We publish on page 185 a portrait of Miss E. McCall Anderson, R.R.C., Matron of the hospital, which will be appreciated by many of her friends and pupils in the nursing world.

The Indian Soldiers' Fund Sub-Committee, Mr. P. D. Agnew and Mr. E. M. Cook, who were indefatigable in the arrangements they made for the comfort of the party travelling down to Brockenhurst, are greatly to be congratulated on the success of the day; the one disappointment of which was that the Marquess of Crewe, Secretary of State for India, was prevented by indisposition from accompanying the party.

The Committee of Ladies of the Order have done no finer piece of work than the formation of the Indian Soldiers' Fund Sub-Committee. The total gifts received by it now amount to some £124,000. Gifts of clothing and comforts, which are very welcome, should be sent to 29, Somerset Street, W., marked "Indian Soldiers' Fund."

NURSING AND THE WAR.

The distinction of being the Matron of the largest hospital in the United Kingdom belongs to Miss M. E. Davies, Matron of the King George Red Cross Hospital, in Stamford Street, London, S.E., which will have at least 1,650 beds. To nurse this enormous hospital, Miss Davies, who, as formerly a Principal Matron in the Territorial Force Nursing Service, has had some insight into military nursing, at the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, proposes to have 3 Principal Sisters, 10 Senior Sisters, 37 Sisters, 228 Staff Nurses, and 80 Women Orderlies (members of Voluntary Aid Detachments), besides Male Orderlies.

One of the Principal Sisters will act as Miss Davies' Assistant; another, as Home Sister; and the third as Housekeeping Sister for the Nursing and Medical Staff. The ten Senior Sisters will each have charge of a floor (five by day and five by night), and will virtually act as Matrons or Superintending Sisters of their own floors, the majority of which will contain 350 beds. Each floor extends over an acre and a half; but there is the advantage that the charge of each Senior Sister is all on the same level, so that she will not have stairs to traverse, as the Matron of an ordinary hospital.

Each will be responsible for the cleanliness of the corridors as well as the supervision of the wards on her own floor.

On four of the five floors there will be seven Ward Sisters; and on the fifth, five Sisters. There will also be three Theatre Sisters. The Ward Sisters will have charge of at least 59 beds, in one instance of 91. It follows that the position of Staff Nurse will be a responsible one, as it will be impossible for the Sister to accompany all members of the visiting staff on their rounds. At night also the Staff Nurses will be in charge, under the Senior Sister of the floor. The Senior Sisters will, for the most part, belong to the Military Service, or have had military experience, as it would be obviously impossible to run a hospital of this size on military lines with an entirely civilian nursing staff. The Ward Sisters have been chosen from those who have had previous experience in the same capacity. A number of Staff Nurses are still needed, and the salary offered is £40 per annum.

The women orderlies, who will come on from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., or from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. alternately, will do probationers' work and the lighter part of ward maids' work. The washing-up of the dinner things and of the cutlery for all the wards will be done by a central department.

The nursing staff will have two hours off duty daily, a half-day weekly, and, once a month, from six o'clock on Saturday evening to ten o'clock Sunday evening. Miss Davies considers that nurses should be well paid, and sees no justice in paying other workers—including doctors—well, and expecting nurses to work for half their usual

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)