

probationers, during their three years' training, is at the rate of £24 a year, also adequate under the circumstances. The equipment of the hospital includes a fleet of five motor ambulances. That indeed spells comfort for the sick on their journey to the hospital. The treatment of typhoid in the Royal Victoria Hospital is on the most modern and scientific lines. I was particularly attracted by the "High Calory Diet in typhoid" which is in vogue here, and by the courtesy of the graduate nurse in charge I have in my possession six little graded diet sheets showing the exact amount of calories given during the day for those divisions of time. Should any readers specially interested in the nursing of typhoid wish to see them I should be most happy to post them.

MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Historically, it is, perhaps, the most interesting in Canada. It has existed since 1822—not, of course, in its present form—and it can claim to be the first hospital where an attempt was made to introduce trained nursing in a civil hospital. Vicissitudes and adversities inseparable from pioneer institutions, it has known in the past. A description—most interesting, by way of contrast—of the nurses and the wards in the year 1867, has been given by Dr. F. T. Sheppard, Dean of Medical Faculty of McGill University:—

"The wards were small and rather untidy, the nurses were Sarah Gamps. Good creatures and motherly souls, some—all uneducated. Many looked upon the wine (or brandy) when it was red. . . . No records were kept. The clinical thermometer had not come into use; the patients had to look after themselves; fresh air was not thought necessary. Armies of rats disported themselves about the wards. . . . Nothing was known of sepsis or antiseptis. Surgeons operated with dirty instruments and septic hands, and wore coats which had for years been baptised with the blood of the victims."

N.B.—These words formed part of a lecture addressed to Nurses of the Montreal General Nurses' Club, in 1906. It would be difficult indeed to recognize in this description the fine hospital and training school to which the McGill University, in a certain measure, owes its existence.

Miss Livingston, Superintendent of Nurses, has been at her post for nearly twenty-six years, and has done splendid work there. We had the pleasure of a very pleasant interview with her, through the introduction of Miss Snively, of Toronto. Here, too, a preliminary course of training has been established since 1906, and the first instructor was a holder of the diploma of Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York.

MONTREAL FOUNDLING AND BABY HOSPITAL.

This "Palace of Delight" for babies is new, not much more than a year old. The familiar bambino—the emblem of babyhood—adorns the outside walls. It is built in such a manner as to capture the maximum of sunlight and warmth,

and in one or other of the sun galleries, which are at both ends, the happy little patients are to be seen, playing and growing like young plants beneath the genial rays of the sun. The little foundlings are kept here until they are two years of age, and then foster parents are found for them. Pens for tiny toddling things have their obvious uses, but also their *disadvantages*, namely, in the opinion of one of the doctors attending the hospital—middle ear trouble, from which the little creatures frequently suffer—is due to the fact that they sit too much on the floor, where draughts are sometimes unavoidable. This expert opinion set Miss Phillips' brain working, and from it emanated an admirable "Pen" raised eight inches from the floor, and at frequent intervals there is a slender upright rod, several inches higher than the rest, to enable the tinies to raise themselves from a sitting position. The results have been excellent. Our visit to Montreal was made exceedingly pleasant by the renewal of our acquaintance with Miss Des Brisay. Our former acquaintance was at our last International gathering at Cologne, when, it will be remembered, she personated Mademoiselle Jeanne Mance, the foundress of the Hotel-Dieu in Montreal. In spite of her very busy life, Miss Helen Des Brisay became our self-constituted body-guard! and did everything she could to make our visits pleasant, and to give us facilities for seeing what we wanted to see. With her we attended the monthly service of the Montreal Branch of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses.

BEATRICE KENT.

COMPOUND MENTHOL SNUFF.

Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. are always noted for the excellence and daintiness of their preparations, and the methods in which they are presented to the public. Their Compound Menthol Snuff has long been employed in the treatment of common colds, hay fever, and other nasal conditions. Hitherto it has been put up in enamelled metal boxes, shaped like a snuff box and provided with an inner cardboard container, and in temperate climates this packing has been found perfectly satisfactory and convenient.

To meet the needs of tropical countries, and to obviate the risks of deterioration from the influences of heat and humidity, this product is now put up for tropical use in a watch-shaped bottle, securely corked and waxed and fitted with a screw cap cover. This is a convenient size and shape for the waistcoat pocket, and securely guards the contents against the risk of deterioration.

HOSPITAL GIFT OF 1,000 GUINEAS.

Captain David Lewis, R.A.M.C., has given a thousand guineas to endow a bed in the King Edward VII Hospital, South Wales, in memory of his father.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)