

HOSPITAL NURSES AND THE PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE.

As considerable uncertainty exists as to whether or not nurses resident in hospitals may have their names placed on the Parliamentary Register, the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association have decided to take Counsel's opinion on the matter. The fact that the claims of the Nursing Staff at one London hospital have been allowed and their names placed on the Register, and that the claims of other nurses similarly situated have been refused, makes it imperative that Counsel's opinion should be obtained on this important question.

table invitingly spread for tea. The Governors' Room opens from the hall and a corridor leads to the beautiful little chapel, with its blue altar cloths, copies of one or two of the old masters which children can understand, and rows of small chairs. Upstairs we are joined by the Sister of that particular floor and inspect the bright wards with their rows of neat little beds, large windows, and tables bright with nasturtiums. The children greet us with happy smiles of welcome. Evidently they accept all visitors as their own particular friends and not as mere sightseers or journalists out to satisfy a lust for copy. Matron plainly has captured the hearts of these small people and their faces beam with delight as she asks this little person some question or addresses a teasing remark to the other. In one room the L.C.C. teacher is giving a lesson to the more convalescent



PRINCESS CHRISTIAN WARD, NORTHCOURT HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, HAMPSTEAD.

NORTHCOURT HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, HAMPSTEAD.

This is one of the best appointed hospitals of its kind and its beautiful surroundings add greatly to its attractions. As one enters the large oak-panelled hall with the wide staircase running up to the wards one gets an impression of light and space. Notice boards, printed rules and invalid chairs are conspicuous by their absence, and a pretty rustic settle takes the place of the usual narrow form. Evidently Miss Mackenzie Rose and those responsible for the hospital have decided that both surroundings and environment are important factors in the healthy development of children in the treatment of disease. From the hall we pass to the Matron's tasteful sitting-room, opening upon the conservatory, with a dainty

children, and from here we pass upstairs to another floor and see Sister Ray's pretty sitting-room and still more rows of little beds. We stop for a moment to admire Nancy's beautiful needlework. Surely never were there stitched so fine, lace inserted with greater precision, or more delicate drawn work on the finest of linen than that accomplished by these small fingers.

In a lift we descend to the kitchen department where a beautiful pantry with white marble floor and shelves must be the joy of the housekeeper's heart; and then lastly, we inspect the large kitchens and drying-room and feel constrained to congratulate the Matron on the order and efficiency which she has managed to maintain in spite of the difficulty in procuring suitable nurses.

(Signed) ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary of the Corporation.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)