

PRELIMINARY TRAINING SCHOOLS.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, NOTTINGHAM.

One of the best-known training schools for nurses in the Midlands is the General Hospital, Nottingham, for many years under the direction of Miss Gertrude Knight and now under that of Miss Hilda May Kendall. It is one of the limited number of hospitals where the pupil nurses have the advantage of entering through a Preliminary Training School. The school was started two years ago, and we are informed that the results have been most satisfactory. This, indeed, is the uniform verdict wherever a Preliminary Training School is instituted.

The pupils are admitted every two months, eight in each class, there is no fee for the course, the pupils provide their own uniform and wear a linen armband marked "Training School," in red, on the left arm. They work in couples, and are entirely responsible, under the supervision of the Sister-Tutor, Miss M. Vaughan Winters (who was trained at the Leicester Infirmary), for the ward kitchens—the night nurse, before the arrival of the pupils, having collected all the breakfast crockery—for the first week.

Then they care for the sanitary blocks, the lockers and ward furniture, and finally the washings.

In her work of instructing the pupils of the Preliminary Training School, Miss Vaughan Winters has the loyal co-operation of the Ward Sisters, without which it could not be successfully carried on.

Miss Vaughan Winters is entirely responsible for the theoretical and practical teaching of the pupils, and while this entails a great deal of movement from one ward to another, morning and evening, it has the advantage of enabling her to keep closely in touch with her former pupils, as well as with the Sisters and general staff.

It is arranged that, as far as possible, theory and practice shall go hand in hand.

There is a delightful classroom for the use of the pupils of the Preliminary Training School, both sunny and airy, but at present bedmaking demonstrations have to take place in a bedroom of a member of the class. It is hoped to remedy this when the new Nurses' Home is built.

After passing the school examination, the pupils, if passed by the medical officer and dentist, sign on for four years, dating from their entrance into the school.

DAILY ROUTINE.

7.0 a.m.—Ward kitchens or bathrooms.
 9.30 a.m.—Lunch.
 10.0 a.m.—Lecture, or off duty, alternate days.
 Off duty: Monday, Wednesday, Friday.
 12.30 p.m. Dinner.
 1.0 to 2.0 p.m.—Study.
 2.0 to 4.30 p.m.—Lecture or off duty, alternate days. Off duty: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday.
 5.0 to 6.0 p.m.—Collect milk cans, clean, and take to dairy.

6.0 to 8 p.m.—Sweeping and tidying up ward kitchens.

8.0 p.m.—Supper.

8.30 p.m.—Chapel.

10.0 p.m.—Bedrooms. Lights out at 10.30 p.m.

Friday of each week household linen received from laundry, examined, and put up for distribution.

Saturday.—Mending; clean classroom.

Sunday.—On duty until 12.30 p.m., the rest of the day off duty, unless otherwise arranged by Sister-Tutor.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

First Week.—Hospital etiquette; Qualification of a good nurse; Ward work; Nurse's duty to herself.

Second Week.—Beds; Material; Bedmaking; Demonstration; Personal hygiene; Ventilation; Heating; Special beds.

Third Week.—Bathing in bed and bathroom; Care of hair, mouth, and giving of bedpans; Admission of new patients; Bedsores: Prevention, Causes, Treatment.

Fourth Week.—Temperature, thermometers; The Skeleton: Uses, composition of bones, classes of bones, the spinal column, the thorax, the skull, bones of cranium, bones of face.

Fifth Week.—Bones of upper limb, with articulations; Bones of lower limb, with articulations; Joints: Classes, movements possible; Circulation and blood.

Sixth Week.—Circulation continued: Respiration; Digestion; the liver; the skin and kidneys.

Seventh Week.—Enemata; Rules for giving medicine; Rules for bandaging; Hot and cold applications; Care of the body after death.

Eighth Week.—Résumé of whole course; Examinations.

REGISTRATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The *British Medical Journal*, South Australia, states: "The examination and registration of South Australian nurses has hitherto been conducted chiefly by the Australian Trained Nurses' Association, which has its headquarters in Sydney, but probably in future this function will be taken over by the newly appointed Nurses' Board of South Australia. There are to be three classes: ordinary nurses, mental nurses, and midwives. With respect to the latter, the Board has power, in order to prevent the spread of diseases, to inhibit a nurse, registered or unregistered, from practising as a midwife, and after the expiration of a year no woman will be allowed to act as a midwife who is unregistered, emergencies excepted, such as a confinement occurring more than five miles from the nearest doctor or midwife. The other provisions of the Act do not call for comment."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)