

and high fenders; and in the basement a room has been furnished as a mess-room, where the clerical staff can take tea in comfort. After making a tour of inspection one realised how much thought, taste and time had been expended by the three members of the Council—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Cox-Davies and Miss Villiers (appointed as the Furnishing Committee by the Finance Committee), assisted by Miss Riddell, the Registrar—and I, for one, desire to express thanks and appreciation for all they have done. It is essentially a woman's domain, and in such an environment, the work for the benefit of the Nursing Profession and the community cannot fail to attain a very high standard, not only of excellence, but of prestige.

Thanks for lovely plants and flowers are due to Mrs. Fenwick and the National Council of Trained Nurses (Reception and Committee Rooms), Miss Lloyd Still, Miss Cox-Davies, Miss Dowbiggin, Mr. and Mrs. Craig, and Miss Riddell and friends. Indeed, the spirit of *esprit de corps* was apparent throughout, a good augury, indeed, for the future work of the Council.

MARGARET BREAY.

A CHARMING GIFT.

A lovely gift arrived on Monday at General Nursing Council Headquarters in the form of a beautiful pink china bowl filled with pink carnations, plants of pink heath and maidenhair fern. Accompanying this gift was a card:—

“To the Members of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales and the Registrar,
from

The Matron-in-Chief and Members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.”

A very graceful action, which we feel sure will be warmly appreciated by every Member of the Council.

WAR HONOURS FOR NURSES.

ROYAL RED CROSS.

The King has awarded the Royal Red Cross to the following ladies, on the recommendation of the Government of India, in recognition of their valuable nursing services in connection with the Waziristan operations:—

FIRST CLASS.—O'Sullivan, Miss E., A.R.R.C., Matron, attd. Q.A.M.N.S. (I.); Tippetts, Miss M. E., A.R.R.C., A Sen. Sister (Matron), Q.A.M.N.S. (I.).

SECOND CLASS.—Bateman, Miss E., Sister, Q.A.M.N.S. (I.); Hickie, Miss N., Temp. Nurse, attd. Q.A.M.N.S. (I.); Wilkinson, Miss E. C., Temp. Nurse, attd. Q.A.M.N.S. (I.); Ennis, Miss E. E., Temp. Nurse, attd. Q.A.M.N.S. (I.); Houston, Miss F., Temp. Nurse, attd. Q.A.M.N.S. (I.); and James, Miss C. S., Temp. Nurse, attd. Q.A.M.N.S. (I.).

EXAMINATION OF NURSES AT ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

No nurse can look upon the noble frontage of St. Thomas' Hospital with its beauty of outline, its separate pavilions united only by a main corridor—a system designed by Miss Florence Nightingale which has never been improved upon—without realising that a stroke of genius placed it just where it has been set down, opposite the beautiful group of buildings at Westminster, including the Houses of Parliament and the Abbey itself, with the broad river flowing between. And no nurse can enter within the gates without recalling her indebtedness to our great law-giver, whose personality is still potent there, for St. Thomas is more than a hospital unit; it is a practical illustration of what Miss Nightingale considered a house for the reception of the sick should be, and the Nightingale Training School carries on and develops her ideals as to the training of nurses. There are great traditions behind the School which are the heritage not only of the Nightingale probationers, but of every probationer throughout the world.

Its methods therefore hold a profound interest for students of nursing education, and it was a great pleasure and privilege to have the opportunity recently of viewing the very thorough arrangements made for the final examination of nurses held this week at the hospital, on the invitation of the Matron, Miss Lloyd Still. The examination is conducted by an “outside Matron”—on the present occasion Miss Montgomery, Matron of Middlesex Hospital, and each candidate is examined on theory for about ten minutes and then has an exhaustive examination as to her practical knowledge extending perhaps over three-quarters of an hour.

In the large room in which the examination takes place Miss Gullan, Sister-Tutor, for a week previously collects from the wards and from various departments of the hospital everything likely to be wanted, and the result, when complete, is very thorough. Each candidate brings with her a splint which she has padded, a bandage which she has made, and a chart which she has kept.

Arranged on tables, and otherwise round the room are familiar appliances and ward furnishings. Thus on the first table are beautifully-kept charts, illustrative of typical temperatures in various diseases. All kinds of feeding appliances, a baby's bottle, feeding cups, &c.; a ward medicine chest, where, under lock and key, is every medicine in common use, and the nurse may be questioned as to doses, the effect of the drug, and so forth, such as the uses of novocain. There are also hypodermic syringes. A nurse will make special note of the little collar of lint on the castor oil bottle. On the next table is a steriliser, and then we come to the material used in making poultices—linseed, charcoal, the oiled paper employed at St. Thomas' as the envelope in an ice poultice, leeches, blisters,

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