

mother and child, and during the past six months 120 such emergency cases were admitted. They came from all parts of London and from other places at considerable distance from the Hospital.

BEDFORD COUNTY HOSPITAL.

On July 9th in the presence of 500 hospital supporters, the Lord Lieutenant of the county opened the new Home for the Nursing Staff. The Duke of Bedford was present at the opening ceremony, and expressed the satisfaction at everything he had seen in the Home at the visit paid by the Duchess of Bedford and himself on the previous day. Lady Ampthill proposed a vote of thanks to the Lord Lieutenant, who then opened the door with a gold key, handed to him by the Matron, Miss A. L. Charteris. The Home consists of bedrooms for forty nurses, recreation room, library, sitting rooms for nurses and sisters, 8 bathrooms, and kitchen. There is also a special room for hair washing, with an electric fan for drying. Each bedroom is beautifully furnished at a cost of £20, and the names of donors of such amount appear on a small plate on the doors of various rooms. Miss Charteris has spared neither time nor trouble in equipping the building to be a real Home, and one of the pleasant features of the ceremony was a presentation to her of a silver card case from every member of the Nursing Staff. The total cost including enlargement of the present staff dining room and equipment, is £15,500.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Sixth Annual Report of the Ministry of Health (Cmd. 2450, price 3s. 6d. net) for the year ended on the 31st March last, is now published.

The Report deals with the more important business of the Department during the year under the main heads of Public Health, including Housing and Town Planning, Local Government and Local Finance, administration of the Poor Law, and administration of the National Health Insurance Acts.

REPORT OF VOLUNTARY HOSPITAL COMMISSION ON VOLUNTARY HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

The distribution of the Government grant of £500,000, and the corresponding effort made by voluntary agencies has resulted in a marked improvement in the financial position of the voluntary hospitals, so far at least as current maintenance expenditure is involved. Attention has since been directed more particularly to the need for the provision of additional voluntary hospital accommodation, and early in 1924 the Minister of Health (Mr. Wheatley) asked the Voluntary Hospital Commission to make inquiry, on the following terms of reference:—

"The Voluntary Hospitals Commission are requested to enquire into and to report upon the extent of the additional voluntary hospital accommodation required in England and Wales and the best means of providing and maintaining it."

The Commission have now presented their report to the Minister of Health, and it is published by the Stationery Office as a Command Paper (Cmd. 2486).

SUMMARY OF REPORT.

At the commencement of their report the Commission point out that there is no general agreement as to the number of hospital beds required for a given unit of the population; and they have not attempted to lay down any ideal standard, as they felt that in the present circumstances inquiry could be more usefully directed to a consideration of what extensions could be regarded as immediately necessary and capable of accomplishment within a reasonable period of time.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Grosvenor Hospital for Women, Vincent Square, S.W.1.—Miss Rhoda M. Bailey, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, and has been Night Sister and Ward Sister at Grosvenor Hospital for Women.

Bury Infirmary, Lancs.—Miss Lucy Somerset, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She received her general training at the Preston Royal Infirmary, and her fever training at Ladywell Sanatorium, Salford. She has held the following appointments:—Theatre Sister, Female Surgical Sister, and Temporary Assistant Matron at the Preston Royal Infirmary; and Assistant Matron at Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

Victoria Hospital, Guernsey.—Miss Ellen Hall, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Hospital, Portsmouth, and has held the following appointments:—Sister at the Royal Hospital, Chesterfield; Sister and Assistant Matron at the Royal Hospital, Portsmouth. Served with the Territorial Army Nursing Service, was awarded the R.R.C. 2nd Class, and was mentioned in despatches.

NIGHT SISTER.

Royal Northern Hospital, Holloway, N.7.—Miss Catherine Speed, S.R.N., has been appointed Night Sister. She was trained at the Leicester Royal Infirmary, and has been Ward Sister at the Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent; Theatre Sister at the West London Hospital; Theatre Sister at the General Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, and has carried out Administrative Duties at the Royal Hospital, Sheffield.

SISTER-IN-CHARGE PRELIMINARY TRAINING SCHOOL.

Miss E. A. Smith, S.R.N., has been appointed Sister-in-Charge of the Preliminary Training School, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, which is to be opened at 24, King's Square, E.C. 1, on September 18th, 1925.

Miss E. A. Smith obtained her Certificate at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in October, 1912. She was appointed Staff Nurse for one year in the Operating Theatres, and afterwards had five months' experience in the Hospital Kitchen.

In March, 1915, Miss Smith joined Q.A.I.M.N.S.R. She served at home, and abroad on a Hospital Ship in the Dardanelles, and in Mesopotamia. After demobilisation she was Sister-in-Charge of a Convalescent Hospital for a short period, and in October, 1917, was appointed Night Sister and then Ward Sister at the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.

In 1919, Miss Smith returned to St. Bartholomew's Hospital as Sister of Luke Ward, and was transferred to Darker Ward in 1924.

This is a long needed addition to the Nursing School at our senior Royal Hospital. We hope to have the pleasure of announcing at an early date that a Sister-Tutor has also been appointed.

ASSISTANT MATRON AND SISTER TUTOR.

Victoria Hospital, Burnley.—Miss Agnes R. Watt, R.G.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron and Sister Tutor. She was trained at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, where she remained as Staff Nurse for one year. She has since been Sister Tutor and Matron's Office Sister at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, for two years, and Night Superintendent, South London Hospital for Women for eighteen months.

TUTOR SISTER.

Southmead Hospital, Bristol.—Miss Nora Brend, S.R.N., has been appointed Tutor Sister. She was trained at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, and has been Tutor Sister at the Gloucester Royal Infirmary and Cheltenham General and Eye Hospital. She also did Army Service.

SISTER.

Royal Northern Hospital, Holloway, N.7.—Miss Rose Baker has been appointed Sister-in-Charge of the Casualty Department. She was trained at the Royal Northern Hospital, Holloway.

PRINCESS MARY'S ROYAL AIR FORCE NURSING SERVICE.

Miss J. M. Cruickshank, Matron-in-Chief, Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, informs us that the official address of the Service is Air Ministry, Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2, and that the Air Ministry Exchange and telephone number is now Holborn 3434. The extension number for the Matron-in-Chief remains as before, i.e. 662.

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