



THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, HALILA SANATORIUM, FINLAND.

### HALILA.

"The Committee on Arrangements of the International Council of Nurses requests the pleasure of your company at Halila Sanatorium, 27th—31st of this month (July, 1925).

Departure from Helsingfors by train, Sunday, 26th, at 11.30 p.m.

Sleeping cars reserved.

Please notify the Secretary of the Council, Miss C. Reimann not later than Friday, 6 p.m. in her office.

This is entirely complimentary."

Thus ran a letter issued in Helsingfors.

So it came to pass that in response to this invitation of the Committee of Arrangements, the newly constituted Board of Directors, and other invited guests, some 50 in all, entrained at Helsingfors on Sunday evening and gradually discovered what was included in the hospitality which was "entirely complimentary."

A special train was placed at our disposal for a twelve hours journey, with most comfortable sleeping berths, to which we retired as soon as we had steamed out of Helsingfors. In the early morning we were greeted at Viipuri with music, speeches, and the presentation of lovely flowers by the National League of Trained Nurses in Finland, the members of which carried off some of our party for breakfast, prepared in readiness in the town, and delivered them safely back to us before the train started.

We arrived at the end of our train journey about 11 a.m. and were then packed into motor cars for a drive of some thirteen miles through a beautiful pine-clad country, interspersed with rivers and lakes, until we came to the Sanatorium at Halila where a Private Patients' block had been placed at the disposal of the Committee of Arrangements by the Government of Finland.

Here we were received by Dr. Elmgren, the Medical Superintendent, to whom we were introduced by Baroness Mannerheim, and received a cordial welcome

and the kindest greeting, and by the Matron, Miss Karin Rancken, of whose constant care for the comfort of the sudden influx of 50 visitors of divers nationalities, her competent administration, and her many kindnesses, it is impossible to speak too appreciatively and gratefully.

Our illustrations show a general view of the Sanatorium taken from the air, the Children's Hospital, and the corridor in which the meetings of the Board of Directors were held, and gives an indication of the beauty and spaciousness of its surroundings. Some idea of its extent may be estimated by the fact that the large and small buildings of which it is composed number 108. The Sanatorium belongs to the State which pays for its up-keep. There is accommodation for 90 men, 70 women, and 50 children. There are four classes of patients. For half of these the advantages of Halila are wholly free, others pay 15, 25, and 35-37½ marks a day. The Nursing Staff, numbering 11 by day and 3 by night are paid by the State.

The part of the Sanatorium in which the members of the I.C.N. were located is, by arrangement, reserved for Russian officers needing treatment. When we were there it was empty of patients, but there were two interesting residents in the persons of an ex-Governor of Finland during the Russian occupation, and his wife. We were told that the country suffered so sorely from divers rulers that it petitioned the Russian Government for a change. M. Guérard was appointed and ruled justly and well, but was soon removed. When the Russian aristocracy fell upon evil days, the Government of Finland remembered their former friend and invited him to be their country's guest. Thus bread cast upon the waters has returned to him after many days.

The days at Halila were all too short. The Board of Directors had much business to transact in gathering up the threads of the work done in Helsingfors, and in arranging for that to be done in the next four years before the Council again meets in Peking in 1929, and met in the corridor,



THE CORRIDOR WHERE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE I.C.N. HELD THEIR MEETINGS.

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