

THE SCUOLA CONVITTO REGINA ELENA.

The Scuola Convitto Regina Elena, which has for the training of its nurses 300 beds in the great Policlinico Hospital, is of special interest to British nurses, for, in the first instance, the staff of trained Sisters who carried on this fine piece of pioneer work under the Matron, Miss Dorothy Snell, were English, and the First President of the Hospital, the late Princess Doria Pamphili, a sister of the late Duke of Newcastle, was English also. It is now eighteen years since the School was established, and all the Sisters' posts are now held by Italian nurses trained in the wards of the Policlinico, and they, in their turn, are training Italian probationers. It is a fine achievement.

Knowing the history of the School and the difficulty it has experienced in the establishment and maintenance of nursing standards, it was a special pleasure to be taken by Miss Snell round its well-ordered wards, to speak with the Sisters, and to note the method with which the work was carried on. We were impressed also with the neatness of the nurses' uniforms, both as to pattern and cut, and also as regards length. While sufficiently short to be hygienic, there was none of the skimpiness, bordering on vulgarity, with which so many nurses nowadays disfigure an otherwise becoming costume. The nursing staff of the Scuola Convitto Regina Elena wear in their

of the School and Sister Dora caps. The Sisters wear white with an Army cap, but, whatever the grade, there is the same immaculate neatness and uniformity, the same pride in the emblem of the profession.

We noticed the male attendant and his usefulness and deftness in moving and lifting helpless patients. And everywhere we remarked the same beautiful hands, which seem made for caring for the sick. Fine, capable hands, which are characteristic also of the drivers of the taxi cabs, so that one wonders how they keep them in so fine a condition with the work they have to perform.

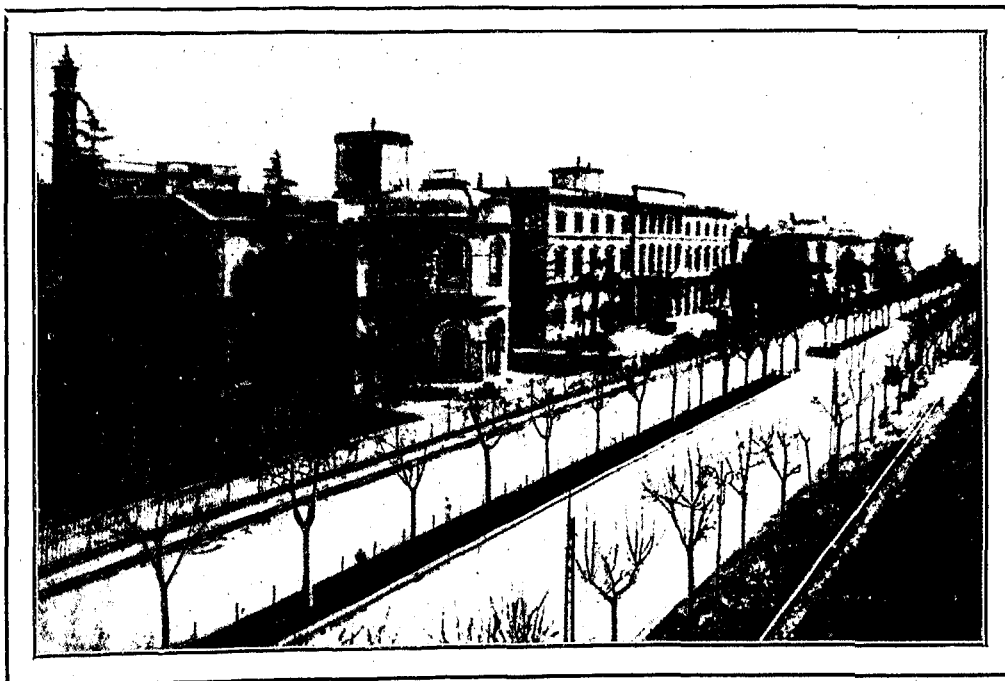
Not only the bodily but the spiritual welfare of the nurses is cared for, and connected with the new wing of the Home recently built is a chapel, which they can use at will, and where Mass is said daily.

That their sitting-room is a pleasant place, with comfortable chairs, couch, and writing table, we can testify, as they kindly vacated it for the use of the guests of the School during the Congress week.

To all of them with Miss Snell, Sister Antonaglia, and Signorina Pastorelli, who was indefatigable in making our stay as pleasant as possible, and to the domestic staff, who waited on us so willingly, we tender our warm thanks. That the School will progress from success to success we do not doubt, for it is founded on the sure foundation of thoroughness in training, and devotion in practice.



The Late Princess DORIA PAMPHILI,
First President Scuola Convitto Regina
Elena, Rome.



THE POLICLINICO HOSPITAL, ROME.

first year white overalls and Sister Dora caps, indented in the front, without strings, in the second year a green striped dress and apron with square bib, in the third year the dress is the same, and the bib round, and when they are graded as staff nurses they wear white with the medal

Of the value of the work of the diplomates of the School during the war there is ample testimony. One Brigadier-General at Verona, wrote: "Intelligence, mercy, culture, complete and great charity unite together in this Training School, which is of immense value to the country."

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