

## NURSING EDUCATION.

In the past Nursing Education has suffered much from the lack of funds to carry out desirable schemes of training. It is, therefore, a happy circumstance that the Rockefeller Foundation, which has the means, has also the interest and the will to work towards its further development. It has sent representatives of its staff to make visits to nursing schools and to make surveys of conditions attendant upon the nursing situation in different countries. It has granted fellowships to nurses for study in a given subject, preparatory to assuming a given piece of work; it has invited leaders in Nursing Education to make visits for the observation and discussion of administrative methods; and it has also given assistance to certain schools for improving the teaching, and towards maintenance, while others have received capital aid, contingent upon a plan of development for building, equipment and maintenance.



MISS RUTH E. DARBYSHIRE, R.R.C., MATRON, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL, LONDON.

We also learn that when once plans submitted have been approved and financial support given by the Rockefeller Trustees, they give their beneficiaries a free hand in working them out.

One of the most recent instances of the interest of the Rockefeller Foundation in Nursing Education is its decision to build and furnish a new Preliminary Training School in connection with University College Hospital, London, an institution it has already treated with great generosity.

The Matron, Miss Ruth E. Darbyshire, is happy to-day that the present Preliminary Training School, which has been established now for three years, as part of a block used for other purposes, and which has already become increasingly cramped and inconvenient, is to be replaced by a new and spacious building, planned for this sole purpose, at an approximate cost of £31,000. Expansion is going on in all directions, more beds are being put into wards, necessitating a larger nursing staff, and, in consequence, further provision for housing them; and one

advantage when the Preliminary School is built will be the release of 20 beds for their use.

The School will contain a lecture hall—furnished as a ward, so that there are facilities for teaching all the necessary manipulations—spacious class rooms, and diet kitchen. The preliminary nursing pupils have the advantage of the use of the laboratory and museum connected with the Medical School for demonstrations—a privilege which adds greatly to the clearness and accuracy of their instruction.

Two Sister-Tutors, one who teaches the preliminary pupils, and the other the hospital nurses, will have suites of rooms in the Home.

The pupils pay £6 6s. for the preliminary course of instruction, and we are told by Miss Darbyshire that there is always a waiting list. The first class of nurses who passed through the Preliminary School—a very carefully selected and particularly nice set—have just passed the State Examination.

Miss Darbyshire, the genial Matron of the hospital, grew up to womanhood in Australia, and received her professional training at St. Thomas's Hospital, London. She has been Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Derby; of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington; is a Principal Matron in the Territorial Force Nursing Service; was Chief Lady Superintendent of Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association; and has travelled in America. Such varied experience is an excellent preparation for dealing, with wisdom and understanding, with the many types of humanity to be found in a large Nurse Training School, and a General Hospital which is also a Medical School.

### THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.

It is satisfactory to learn that the influenza epidemic, which has been of a serious character, is now decreasing as shown by the Registrar-General. The highest rate recorded, during the epidemic, was 66 per 1,000, which occurred in Leeds in the week ended February 23rd.

### DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON LONDON CLEANSING.

The Minister of Health has now appointed the Committee to consider the report made by Mr. J. C. Dawes, the Inspector of Public Cleansing of the Ministry of Health, on Public Cleansing in London, and to recommend what measures should be taken on the report. The members are:—Sir John Gatti, J.P., Mr. H. J. Beavis, J.P., Mr. F. T. Foulger, Alderman H. V. Kenyon, J.P., Mr. C. W. Key, J.P., Mr. W. Lindley-Jones, O.B.E., Alderman A. W. Mathias, J.P., The Rev. A. G. Pritchard, Mr. E. Sanger, Sir H. Percy Shepherd.

Sir John Gatti, J.P., has been appointed Chairman. The Secretaries are the Town Clerk of Westminster (Mr. G. Parker Morris, LL.B.) and Mr. T. M. F. Hawthorne of the Ministry of Health, and all communications should be addressed to them at the Ministry of Health, Whitehall.

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