

enticing. We were told by Miss Merrell, the Office Sister who conducted us round, that the bath may only be used when at least three people are there, two of whom must be good swimmers.

The kitchen staff in the great kitchen cook for 300 people, and in the basement also is a hairdressing salon, with which the members of the nursing staff are free to make their own arrangements. It is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day and is usually fully employed. On the bedroom floors, also, basins for shampooing; and hair dryers are installed, where the nurses can wash and dry their own hair.

On the ground floor is the nurses' dining-room, oak panelled, as are the other rooms, where meals are served day and night, the night nurses coming down in three relays, and two maids being always on night duty. The

Is it to be wondered that there is no dearth of probationers at the Middlesex Hospital, and that some vacancies are booked a year ahead?

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The long and honourable record of Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital has never been more greatly emphasised than during the past year, when the Isolation Block for puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia, and the Research Laboratory in connection with it, were completed on the new site in Hammersmith, and opened to patients, and for research work, the opening ceremony being performed by H.R.H. Princess Mary, Countess of Harewood.

Owing to the enterprise of the President, the Lord



By courtesy of Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital.

THE SOUTH FRONT OF THE ISOLATION BLOCK OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S MATERNITY HOSPITAL, HAMMERSMITH.

Sisters have a charming dining-room opening out of the larger one.

On the ground floor also is the sitting-room of noble proportions, and most restfully and harmoniously furnished. A garden and tennis court are in the adjoining quadrangle, access to which is through French windows.

There is a lecture room on the ground floor, where the probationers in training receive instruction, to some purpose, as both preliminary and final candidates for the State Examination in May all passed, which must be very gratifying to the Matron and Sister-Tutors.

Each nurse has a delightful bedroom with plenty of cupboard space, hot and cold water laid on, bookshelves and writing-board. The colour scheme is different on each floor, and there are corners with gas-rings where tea can be brewed at will. Lastly there is a roof garden.

Howard de Walden, the Hon. Treasurer, Anthony de Rothschild, Esq., and the Committee of Management, a new era in the history of the Hospital has been inaugurated.

The Report for 1930, in connection with the rebuilding of the hospital, tells us that the origin of puerperal fever, the chief single cause of puerperal mortality, is not fully understood. Hitherto systematic research has been impossible, as the cases of puerperal fever have been scattered throughout the country. Now, however, owing to the establishment at the new Queen Charlotte's Hospital of a central isolation block for these cases, the opportunity occurs to make a thorough investigation along lines likely to lead to a solution of the problem. The provision of a large laboratory attached to a puerperal fever isolation block in a maternity hospital forms a unique combination most favourable to successful study. The isolation block has been

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)