

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

On August 10th the British College of Nurses was honoured by a visit from Her Majesty Queen Sophie, Queen Dowager of Greece.

The Queen was received by the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, and the Council in their Robes, and accepted a sweet bouquet of pink roses and carnations.

The Councillors and ex-Councillors who assembled at short notice and who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty were Miss Margaret Breay and Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Vice-Presidents, Miss K. M. Latham, R.R.C., Miss Gladys Le Geyt, Miss Isabel Macdonald and Miss S. A. Villiers, J.P. Miss Beatrice Treasure in State uniform was specially invited to be present.

The Queen then proceeded to visit the different Departments of the College, and viewed some of its treasures, including its Book of Remembrance, for which she expressed much admiration, and graciously signed her name in the Distinguished Visitors Book.

In the Secretary's Office were assembled a number of Fellows and Members of the College in the State Registered Nurses' Uniform, including Miss Catherine A. Evans of the Registered Nurses' Association, who had nursed for the Queen in Athens, and with whom Her Majesty conversed. Here also the State Register of Nurses was inspected with very great interest.

The visit of Queen Sophie to the College gave much pleasure to the Council, who realised the great interest she has always taken in the evolution of trained nursing since the Græco-Turkish War in 1897, when a contingent of British Nurses, selected by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick as Superintendent of the Nursing Department of the National Fund for the Greek Wounded, were sent out at the request of the then Crown Princess to care for the sick and wounded in the hospitals in Athens, where Mrs. Fenwick on proceeding to Greece became, by request of Her Royal Highness, Inspector of Nursing of the Ecole Militaire Hospital. Hospitals were also organised at the Piræus, in Epirus, and in the island of Eubæa.

Queen Sophie inherits great intellectual force from her mother, the late Empress Frederick, and her simplicity of manner is a truly royal attribute.

Alas! this great lady has suffered many sorrows, loss of husband, crown and country; and yet she is overflowing with sympathy for others.

THE HOSPITALS ADMINISTRATION PRIZE.

In our last issue we announced that the Prize of £2 2s. offered for the best papers sent in by a member of the Administration Class which had visited four hospitals by the kind permission of the authorities, conducted by Miss D. K. Graham, F.B.C.N., had been awarded to Miss D. M. Moase, Housekeeping Sister at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Tottenham. We have pleasure in publishing below the first of this series, which is on the Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone.

THE MODERN MENTAL HOSPITAL.

The ideal situation for a Mental Hospital is one in the country, where no sights or sounds offend the senses, and nature herself assists in the cure.

The Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone, has such a situation as this, with its numerous paths, green lawns, and flower-beds, beautiful trees, and shrubberies, tennis-courts and playing-fields, and the Home Farm. All this must add greatly to the improvement of the patients' conditions.

On entering the hospital are the various offices: those for the Medical Superintendent and his assistants, also for the various clerks. Here also are Committee rooms, Waiting rooms, the Telephone Exchange, and the Medical Block, which contains a Clinical Laboratory, Dental Surgery, Operating room, and X-ray and Electrical rooms. In the middle are the Administrative offices: General Stores, Kitchen, Dining-room and Recreation Hall, the latter being provided with a finely polished floor, which is used for dancing, entertainments, and cinematograph shows. At the sides are the wards, for females one side and males on the other.

The Dispensary, which was on the ground floor, was the first store visited, and there one was shown an emergency box, fitted with antidotes for all poisons—also a first-aid outfit. One of these boxes was kept on each floor, and one in the Medical Superintendent's office. All patients are first admitted to a receiving-room, where a thorough examination is made, and then passed on to the general ward, isolation ward, or whichever is considered necessary.

Every admission is first of all reported to the Medical Superintendent and Matron—a special form provided for this purpose being filled in by the sister or nurse-in-charge.

The general ward, which contains thirty-seven beds,



**HER MAJESTY QUEEN SOPHIE,
QUEEN DOWAGER OF GREECE.**

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