

ADMINISTRATIVE CLASSES, CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL.

THE NEW NURSES' HOME AT HAVERSTOCK HILL.

Hospital Governors and Managers of Institutions in recent years have realised the necessity of providing comfortable quarters for their Nursing Staffs, and many beautiful buildings have, in consequence, been erected with this object in view.

Those responsible for the delightful Charing Cross Hospital New Nurses' Home, built high on Haverstock Hill, away from the environment of the Hospital, surmounting the difficulty of transport, by conveying the staff to and from duty in luxurious Daimler coaches, have surely proclaimed the last word in such schemes.

Fellows and Members, who joined a Class on Hospital Administration organised by the British College of Nurses, were privileged to visit this charming Nurses' Home on Wednesday, September 28th.

Before proceeding to Haverstock Hill, we were most kindly received by the Matron, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., F.B.C.N., in the Nurses' Lounge at Charing Cross Hospital, who explained many interesting items concerning the daily transit, by coach, of the Staff to and from the New Home at Haverstock Hill, where they live; the smooth working of which was the result of much careful thought in planning the minimum number of journeys, as the cost was experimental.

On passing to the main entrance one of these magnificent coaches was in waiting to convey the party to the New Nurses' Home, where the probationers and night nurses live. The drive of 20 minutes in this coach de luxe, on seats beautifully upholstered and luxuriously sprung, was indeed pleasant! One pictured two of these coaches each holding 32 probationer nurses wearing indoor uniform, just as they had left the breakfast table, speeding them daily through the streets to duty, and conveying from their night's vigil, the night nurses—how restful, by the way—back to the Home.

We arrived at the handsome wrought-iron gateway leading to the entrance of the Home, a charming red brick building of Georgian style designed by Mr. Harold Goslett, F.R.I.B.A. (on this site a convent once stood), where all were welcomed by Miss Marion Nuttall, F.B.C.N., the Superintendent Sister of the Home.

On entering the spacious hall with polished pine floor, a charm created by the classical elegance of design, so simple yet completely satisfying, pervades all within. Fine polished oak doors, panelless, with not a ridge for dust to harbour, and handsome staircase and corridors leading right and left, give a stately effect.

The tour of this delightful building began with the kitchen and its departments, comprising scullery, housemaids' pantry, serving lift, store rooms for provisions, linen, etc. In the latter the chute for the used linen excited much admiration. This section was designed with every labour-saving device, and though semi-basement, was bright and cheerful with white tiled walls from floor to ceiling and many windows. The maids' sitting room, furnished in oak, with cream walls and pretty chintz curtains, gave a touch of comfort, a wing on the first floor being allocated to the domestic staff bedrooms, also artistically furnished in oak, a spacious dressing table with drawers, an easy chair, and pretty chintz curtains.

On returning to the Entrance Hall we peep into the Visitors' room, a cosy spot where nurses may receive their friends, male or otherwise, and where they may be entertained to tea.

Next we enter the Dining Room, where separate tables are in use. These and the chairs of dark oak are of a design

in keeping with the style of the building, and rich blue curtains harmonise charmingly with cream-coloured walls and dark oak, a very practical feature being the wide hatchway through to the serving room, and lift from the kitchen.

Then we reach the Nurses' Sitting Room, which is perhaps the crowning glory of the house. This apartment is of splendid dimensions, oak panelled from floor to frieze, the latter being cream colour, parquet floor beautifully polished, with handsome rugs here and there, large luxurious chesterfields, a grand piano, many easy armchairs with pretty chintz covers, a bookcase full of books for recreation and a wireless set. At the end of this fine room, for there is space enough to hold a dance, two large folding doors lead into the writing room, furnished in oak, three little bureaux and easy chairs invite a quiet hour. The large doors are thrown wide when a dance is in progress. Wide windows hung with cream net curtains and long deep blue hangings and low window seats create an effect of comfort all their own.

A glimpse into another beautiful room, that of the Superintendent Sister, enhanced by many of her own personal possessions, antique furniture and other treasures, is like the nurses' sitting room, panelled in oak from floor to frieze. Then comes her Office, where the window looks on to a flower garden which Miss Nuttall herself created. From this Office the wireless used by the staff is controlled. A telephone box for the staff is observed as we pass along the corridor.

The dormitories were now to be explored.

There are two staircases of stone with bronze rails, at each end of the building, by which access to the next floor is gained. Now mounting the staircase we reach the corridors leading to the bedrooms, which, in size, exceed the average room provided for staff in Hospitals and Institutions.

The scheme of cream walls and oak wood-work is continued throughout, pretty blue lino covering the floors; the bedstead and dressing-table dark oak, and the latter equipped with a writing shelf which slides from beneath the dressing-table top.

A wardrobe inset in the wall, and again the fine polished plain oak door is a striking feature of the simplicity of design; a long mirror is fitted on the inside of the wardrobe door. A small oak table by the bed is designed in the form of a box, and serves as a linen basket. An easy cane-backed chair completes the furnishing, and every room is fitted with a set-in toilet basin with hot and cold water. An ingenious arrangement to prevent pipes being stopped, through articles going down the basin, is that a specially wide pipe is constructed at the bend below the basin, which will unscrew and any obstructing articles may be intercepted, and above every door is a ventilator.

All the windows, typical of the period of architecture, are large with wide tiled sills, the bright blue hangings giving the touch of colour to complete a charming scheme. Some of the rooms have as many as two and three windows, so it can be imagined how delightfully light and airy is the effect, and to think that there are 114 of these lovely rooms!

The corridors are wide and light, with blue and white rubber floor covering, conveniently arranged are bath-rooms and lavatories, with white tiled walls, and the former fitted with a splendid porcelain bath; on every corridor a special basin is installed with shampoo spray for washing hair. Also at the end of the corridors a gas ring is fixed, with arrangements for boiling water, for making tea, etc. Electric light switches of bronze need no polish.

Every corridor has also its store cupboard, box room, housemaids' cupboard, linen cupboard, and on one is a small sewing-room, with a sewing machine, where linen is repaired. Then leading off each corridor, we come to the

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