

L'ECOLE DES INFIRMIÈRES DE L'ASSISTANCE PUBLIQUE À PARIS.

An institution which will be of great interest to members of the forthcoming International Congress of Nurses, who attended that held in Paris just over a quarter of a century ago, will be the Nursing School of the Assistance Publique at the Salpêtrière Hospital. For it was in 1907 that for the first time this ancient hospital opened its doors as a Training School for nurses, and the official opening of the fine new building erected for this purpose coincided with the visit of the International Nurses, and took place in their presence, at a ceremony unforgettable by all privileged to take part in it. They were welcomed by M. Mesureur, then Director General of the Assistance Publique, and distinguished Directors of hospitals under its control, and afterwards entertained at a charming repast in the Nurses' Home.

Since that memorable occasion the School has supplied 1,365 trained nurses to the various hospitals of the Assistance Publique, most of whom have become surveillantes. Each year in October some 150 pupils are admitted on probation after a competitive examination, held at the School, after the list has been approved by the Director General of the Administration. They have also to pass a severe medical examination as to their suitability from a health point of view.

Candidates must be of French nationality, and single women or widows between the ages of nineteen and twenty-six.

At the conclusion of a preliminary stage of two months, with the approval of her parents or guardian, if she is a minor, a pupil is required to give an undertaking to remain in the service of the Administration Publique for five years after the conclusion of her training. If she leaves before the expiration of this period, whether voluntarily, or for disciplinary reasons, she is required to pay an indemnity.

After passing an examination at the conclusion of this training, and having served the five years of their engagement, each nurse receives a *brevet d'infirmière* from the Administration General of the Assistance Publique, and also a *brevet* of professional capacity as a nurse, from the Minister of Public Health, which entitle her to use the title of *Infirmière Diplômée de l'Etat Français*.

Brussels has been named the miniature Paris. It is a beautiful city and possesses splendid buildings in fine spaces. The King's Palace and the Palais de Justice are architecturally magnificent, and if rumour speaks the truth King Albert and Queen Elizabeth, of heroic memory, are to receive the members of the International Congress.

BATTERSEA POLYTECHNIC.

DEPARTMENT OF HYGIENE AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Training of Health Visitors.

The possession of a Health Visitor's Certificate, in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, is a qualification which adds considerably to the equipment of a Nurse, and admirable courses for the Training of Health Visitors are organised by the Battersea Polytechnic, Battersea Park Road, London, S.W.11, of which the Principal is G. F. O'Riordan, Esq., B.Sc. (Eng.), and the Head of the Department of Hygiene and Public Health, Miss Evelyn Wilkins, B.A. Sociology, London.

These courses begin in September and January, and for students who are not trained Nurses two years' full-time training in Public Health and Social work must precede entry for the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, this being the qualification recognised by the Ministry of Health. This must be followed by not less than six months in a Children's or General Hospital, and the training necessary (one year) for the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

For the fully trained Nurse, six months full-time training only is necessary in Public Health and Social work, and to be followed by that for the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board, if this has not already been taken.

The former course is intended for the younger student (entry is not permitted under 18) and we are glad to learn that some students wisely prefer to follow

their two years' training by a full Nurse's training. They then have the advantage of being, at the end of their course, both Registered Nurses and Certificated Health Visitors (when the certificate of the Central Midwives Board has been obtained) and also are certainly of a more suitable age to begin work as Health Visitors.

The fees for the two years' Course are £20 per annum, or £7 per term. For six months £12 for the Course. Candidates are required to submit a medical certificate and furnish evidence of a good general education.

Further information can be obtained from the Head of the Department.

HOUSEHOLD AND SOCIAL SCIENCE.

A new full-time course in dietetics for post-graduate students is to be inaugurated next session at King's College of Household and Social Science. It is a notable and important development of the resources of the College. Students who gain the diploma will be equipped to fill positions as dieticians to hospitals, sanatoria, convalescent homes, schools, hostels, and similar institutions at home and abroad.



La Façade de l'Ecole des Infirmières de l'Assistance Publique à Paris.

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