

THE LONDON HOSPITAL, WHITECHAPEL, E.

THE PRELIMINARY TRAINING SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENTS.

The Preliminary Training School for Pupil Probationers in connection with the London Hospital, inaugurated in 1895, is situated at Tredegar House, Bow Road, E.

In this school, prospective probationers receive a seven weeks' preliminary course of instruction, prior to entering the Hospital for General Training.

Tredegar House has accommodation for 31 probationers, was rebuilt some 20 years ago, the site on which it stands being a gift from Lord Tredegar, and is admirably adapted for its purpose.

The cost of building this fine house was largely defrayed from the funds collected by the Nursing Staff.

It was the privilege of Members taking the Hospital Administration Course of the British College of Nurses to visit this interesting school on October 10th, when they were most kindly received and conducted over the premises by Miss Newberry, Matron's Assistant at the London Hospital, and Miss M. Scotland, the Sister-in-Charge of Tredegar House.

On passing through the portico and hall, the visitors entered the main Lecture Room, with windows overlooking the garden and tennis courts. Numerous models for bandaging stand around the room, and other educational equipment is in evidence. Here a very interesting item was the pupil probationers' timetable, giving the details of the daily programme (inclusive of 2 hours off duty during the day), from rising at 6.15 a.m. to "lights out" at 10.30 p.m. They finish their work at 8.30 p.m.

The curriculum embraces tuition in: bandaging practice, demonstration cookery class at the Hospital, practical nursing lectures on Physiology, Hygiene, Theoretical Nursing and classes on bandaging, practical cookery, splint padding, ambulance work, and chemistry of food classes.

One day in the week from 8.45 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. is devoted to housework and cleaning. Some of the pupils act as monitresses, being held responsible for certain duties such as—(1) checking the dining-room inventory of cutlery and silver, etc.; (2) china; (3) care of study and library books; (4) order and cleanliness of cleaning implements, and order of housemaids' pantry. The monitress of the day is responsible for seeing that there is no talking during class hours. All pupil probationers dust their own bedrooms.

On leaving the Lecture Room, we notice, leading off the hall, a very comfortable lounge, where nurses may receive their visitors.

We next visit the very pleasant dining and sitting rooms, both with large windows overlooking the garden and tennis courts in the former, the tables laid for tea (by the pupils) were gay with bowls of anemones.

Here we noted portraits of the Hon. Sydney Holland (later the famous Lord Knutsford) and Sir William T. Paulin, late Treasurer.

The sitting room gave all the atmosphere of complete rest from study.

On the second and third storeys respectively are class rooms for practical nursing, equipped with a supply of hot

and cold water, instruments, dressing trolleys, etc., and nurses' bedrooms—the latter have oak furnishings, each of the thirty-one pupils having a bedroom to herself.

We then descended to the downstairs departments, where the same cheerful orderliness prevailed; roomy pantries and ample kitchen, the flooring in red brick and walls of white tiles. Lack of time prevented further survey, and we returned to the first floor, where we had a glimpse of the Superintendent Sister's charming sitting-room.

It was interesting to learn from Miss Scotland that in recent years the type of pupil probationer entering for the Profession has much improved in every way, and that the average pupil appeared full of enthusiasm to accomplish a satisfactory preliminary training that she might embark on her Profession.

The Sister-in-Charge is to be congratulated on the organisation of this fine Preliminary Training School, and the successful work entailed in

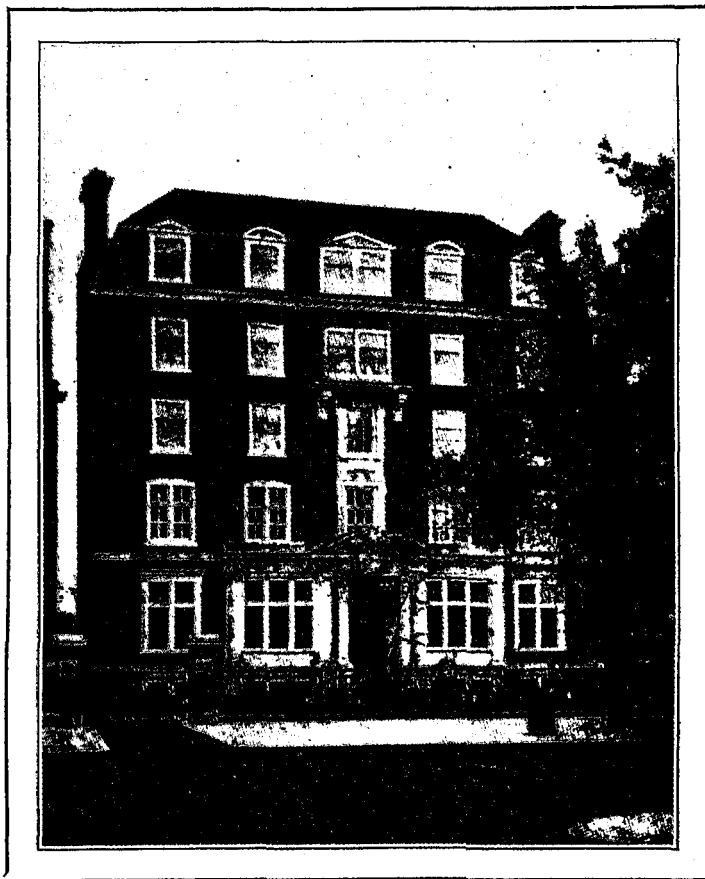
testing the capabilities of the pupils.

Appreciative thanks were expressed to her for the practical information given, before we proceeded, under the guidance of Miss Newberry, to the London Hospital.

The London Hospital: A City of Healing.

On arriving at the London Hospital, we were cordially received by the Matron, Miss G. M. Littleboy, who, with the greatest courtesy and kindness, personally conducted the Class round the various departments, which had been joined by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, a former Sister at the Hospital half a century ago.

We first visited some of the Operating Theatres (a suite of eight on the third floor), where walls tiled in white and palest green are of dazzling spotlessness, with the adjoining offices of anæsthetising, recovery, and dressing-rooms, etc.



TREDEGAR HOUSE, BOW ROAD, E.
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