

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S AUXILIARY HOSPITAL, GOLDHAWK ROAD, AND ISOLATION BLOCK, RAVENS COURT SQUARE, HAMMERSMITH.

VISIT OF THE ADMINISTRATION CLASS, BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

On Thursday, February 2nd, 1933, a sunny day full of promise of Spring, the Fellows and Members of the Administration Class of the British College of Nurses were privileged to visit Queen Charlotte's Auxiliary Hospital and new Isolation Block, including other departments, at Hammersmith.

A short journey by bus brought us to the gates of Oakbrook Lodge, an existing house on the new site.

Following the drive round an island of shrubs, revealed the beautiful entrance of this house, where we were most kindly welcomed by the Sister in Charge, Miss D. K. Riggall, who explained that Miss Dare, the Matron, regretted that she was unavoidably detained from being present by official business.

Ante-Natal Department.

We were then conducted through the grounds to the Ante-Natal Department and District Midwives' Home for Hammersmith ("Longthorpe Lodge"), another existing house on the estate, which was once a typical English country dwelling. We entered,

and on our right came to the room where expectant mothers are examined; here the cream decoration and white enamelled furniture radiate cheerfulness; in a small wing are two cubicles where patients undress prior to, and dress after, examination.

The next room on this floor is the Class and Waiting Room, here ante-natal patients, prior to their entering the Hospital, or being attended by the Hospital in their own homes, attend two classes weekly, when they receive instruction in making of infants' garments, and other matters concerning their condition. These expectant mothers may attend for treatment on any week-day, except Saturday. From this pleasant room we look through the large bay windows to an old garden of lawn and shrubberies, where the mothers leave their children and the perambulators while attending classes and having treatment.

Passing from this room, at the end of the hall is the Lady Almoner's office, and as we descended the steps leading

from this room to the garden, our guide explained that the upper stories of Longthorpe Lodge were adapted to provide quarters for the District Nurses, who attend about 20 women per month in their own homes.

Now came a tour of the grounds; en route we noticed a small block of houses used to accommodate the Engineers and Porters, and as our feet pressed over lawn, by ample greenhouses, through old shrubberies, and by a large trim kitchen garden, from which patients and staff enjoy the produce, Miss Riggall explained that the whole of the new site was five acres in extent, and that three of the existing houses were adapted to meet the needs of the Hospital while the process of the grand scheme of rebuilding the whole of Queen Charlotte's Hospital at Goldhawk Road is in progress.

As we complete the tour of the grounds, we pause to look at a very fine old mulberry tree, which we are told

bears great quantities of luscious fruit in season, standing in what was the garden of an old convent, now demolished, shedding an atmosphere of an age long past!

Now we enter "Invermead" Auxiliary Hospital, another existing house, which, by the generosity of Lady Howard de Walden and the Ladies' Association, has been transformed into this well-equipped Hospital accommodating some 20 patients.

On the ground floor, leading off the

hall, is a large room running the length of the house, flooded with sunlight from the large bay windows, the first Ward to be visited. The decorations, cream colour throughout with white bedsteads and furniture, reflects brightness. A very charming feature of the colour scheme is that the screen covers are of saxe blue, also the frill and covers of the little white cots, swung high at the foot of each mother's bed, whose nightdress collar is of this shade too, is delightfully effective.

The immaculate white lockers have transparent glass tops, so that all within is visible; inset basin is installed with hot and cold water, and wireless set. As we passed down the Ward, the happy contented appearance of the patients was most marked, and appreciation was expressed by several of the peace and comfort of this beautiful ward, the end of which led on to a balcony overlooking the garden.

On the next floor, the ward we have just visited is repeated. Babies' charts are explained, showing the date of severance of the cord, time of feeds, which are three-



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