

beautiful gates I gained a glimpse of the court—pink and pale-blue Persian tile rose designs similar to those worked into the exquisite rugs of the country, the gate gilded above, the small cupola of the four minarets and the big one in the midst, pure gold, all sit in blazing sunshine against the oriental sky. It seems a dream of beauty until one looks around and sees the miserable little houses, the dirt, and the crowd of half-blind beggars who press around, trying at least to bring themselves luck by touching one's sleeve or skirt."

There is one very big general hospital in Baghdad, the Royal Hospital, where admirable work is done by French nuns, but unfortunately Miss Schwarzenberg is unable to speak well of its general organisation and ward conditions.

A training school is attached to the Hospital, but the student nurses have not yet developed a very nurse-like spirit—for instance, they had just been on strike, refusing not only to attend lectures, but also to work in the wards, where the entire nursing depends on them. There is, of course, great difficulty in finding sufficient candidates of a good type, Moslem girls, in particular, seldom being allowed to leave their homes. No doubt, says Miss Schwarzenberg, the irresponsibility of the young girls is the outcome of the life led by Eastern women in the past, but it makes grave difficulties in hospital work.

The Student nurses are in a sense keen, but they will not take the trouble to learn, and do not doubt their ability to carry out the most difficult procedures. Bedside nursing does not interest them, they only want to give injections, make infusions, and do minor surgery.

Miss Schwarzenberg concludes: "It seems to me that this country will need the services of a selected group of nurses from other countries for some years, to take responsible positions, and to train native women to take over these positions eventually. Those who go should have had the best moral, professional and social education, and should have shown their ability to such work. They should be prepared to bring infinite patience to a difficult task, but I feel that great results await those who undertake health work under these conditions."

#### Greece.

Miss Schwarzenberg relates that from the moment she approached Greece (from the sea on a lovely morning) and was met by two of her kind hostesses—Miss Chryssaki and Miss Messolora—she was completely possessed by the charm and friendliness of this most beautiful country. She had the privilege of an audience with His Majesty the King of the Hellenes, and was very greatly impressed by his interest in medical and nursing questions in general, and by his knowledge of the conditions and personnel in his own country. His Majesty's evident understanding of the work gives, she believes, every ground for hope that great progress will be made in this direction.

The Red Cross Hospital, to which a training school is attached, gives a three years' course of training in nursing, and also a six months' course for Red Cross aids, and is a new and very beautiful building. Miss Messolora (formerly an International Student at Bedford College), is the Head of the Hospital and School, and may, Miss Schwarzenberg states, rightly be proud of the results of her work.

At the Evangelismos Hospital—a fine general hospital of 500 beds—the School is in charge of Miss Diomede, another old International Student; while the Hospital has its own Matron, and by the co-operation of these two, the pupil nurses receive excellent experience.

The Maternity Hospital, founded and endowed by Madame Venizelos, Miss Schwarzenberg describes as one of the most beautiful she has ever seen and entirely modern in the best sense of the word. There is an excellent midwifery school at the hospital, giving a two years' course.

Miss Kolea (the Superintendent of Nurses), has great ability, and is accomplishing fine work.

There is a Municipal Hospital, now undergoing great changes; and one State Hospital, which is connected with the University.

A few special hospitals, such as the Children's Hospital founded by Queen Sophia, and the Mental Hospital, outside Athens, in the nature of an agricultural settlement, were also visited.

Public Health work is making steady progress. Financial help is given by the Rockefeller Foundation, which, according to its usual method, has taken over one part of the city and made itself responsible for the general health work, home visiting, clinics, etc., in that part. Mrs. Apostolaki, who was trained in France and has done post-graduate work in England, is Superintendent of the nursing, which owes much to her outstanding abilities. The Patriotic Foundation—a large private organisation—also founded by Queen Sophia, undertakes welfare work among mothers and children in various parts of Athens. It is under the able supervision of Miss Chryssaki (the President of the Hellenic Graduate Nurses' Association), and the work, Miss Schwarzenberg states, impressed her as really excellent.

Summing up her impression gained from her experience in Greece, she writes that, "although there is at present a great shortage of trained nurses, the profession does not lack outstanding personalities with real gifts of leadership as well as enthusiasm and interest. With a good working plan covering some years, and with facilities for training many more candidates of the right type and for post-graduate work in other countries, it seems to me that the nursing personnel in Greece should before long be able to meet all the demands of a comprehensive health service. One cannot help feeling that it would greatly advance the interests of the work if a nurse official could be appointed under the Ministry of Health to deal with nursing and public health matters, as has been done in Poland, Finland, Bulgaria, and various other countries."

Miss Schwarzenberg concludes her article with the following words:—

"I cannot close this account of my travels without speaking once more of the wonderful kindness, hospitality, and helpfulness of all those with whom I came in contact in the countries I visited. It was a revelation, as well as a pleasure, to meet so many people who were keenly interested in health work and in the nursing profession, and, above all, it was touching to see so many evidences of confidence in the International Council of Nurses and in the help which we can give. Thanks to the knowledge I have gained of very varied conditions, and to the personal contacts I have enjoyed. I feel much better equipped to deal with the many problems that are put to us, and I realize more fully than ever before the value of work which can be done through such an organization as ours."

Among other important articles in the *Review* are: "The Papworth Scheme for ex-Sanatorium Nurses," by Miss K. L. Borne; "The Organization and Work of the Evangelistic Sisters of the 'Diakonieverein'," by Sister Friederike Oettinger; "The University School of Nursing (Edith Cavell-Marie Depage Foundation) and the University Hospital of St. Pierre at Brussels," by Mlle. Cecile Mechelynck.

It is communicated for the information of new subscribers to the *International Nursing Review* that it is no longer possible to go on accepting orders to begin with the next number of 1936 (Vol. X, No. 1), as, owing to the entirely unexpected demand for this number, the stock is now practically exhausted.

Subscriptions may still begin with Vol. X, No. 2 (Swiss frs. 6 for the rest of the year).

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