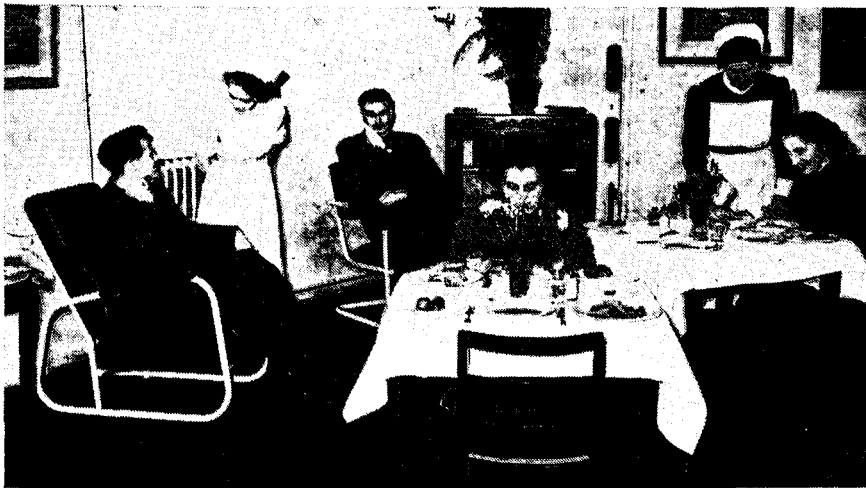


farm from the beginning and for many years its own water, gas and sewage systems), as tailors, shoemakers, carpenters—there was even "bonnet making" for the women. Special attention was given to a liberal dietary; there were dances weekly for convalescent patients, while visitors were so numerous that they had to be limited to two, at a time for each patient.

Within five years it had become necessary to raise the accommodation to over 2,000. In later years additional wards were erected apart from the main building and when these were destroyed in 1903 by a fire in which 51 women lost their lives, they were replaced by brick villas which, in turn, suffered very severely indeed from enemy action in the second world war. More recently, new admission wards and a nurses' home have been erected.

Today there is accommodation at Friern Hospital for some 2,500 patients and 800 staff.

The hospital was under the administration of the London County Council from 1888 until 1948, when the present Hospital Management Committee, under the chairmanship of Lady Archibald, was appointed by the Ministry of Health. Although greatly handicapped by national shortages, much has been done to improve the appearance and equipment of wards, some of which had not been renovated since 1850, and to raise standards throughout the hospital.



NOW

During the late war in addition to its normal work the hospital reserved a quarter of its accommodation for St. Bartholomew's Hospital, which established an E.M.S. Hospital and a Final Year Medical School.

On the medical side work at Friern has developed in recent years, during which there has been a considerable increase in the number of voluntary patients. In 1946 Insulin Coma treatment was begun and in the same year Electrical Convulsion treatment was started and has been carried out increasingly since then. Prefrontal Leucotomy was first performed in 1947 and has been a regular feature of treatment ever since, with, on the whole, most satisfactory results both in recent and in chronic cases. There has been a very considerable development also in Occupational Therapy, owing to the greater accommodation, better supplies, equipment and materials and an increase in the number of staff.

Although today all, or nearly all, the patients admitted to Friern Hospital (about half their number being voluntary patients), come from particular boroughs in or near London, Colney Hatch Asylum in its early days was responsible for nearly all aliens and Jewish patients in the London area who suffered from mental disorders. Some of the Jewish

patients were victims then, as in recent years, of bitter persecution on the Continent, whose experiences may have brought on mental breakdown or exhaustion. Thus Colney Hatch was always a haven for persecuted Jews and special attention was given from the start to their spiritual and temporal needs. In 1905 when the present Jewish Minister was appointed, there were about 350 Jewish patients under this care. The number increased to 1,000 and is now 801.

Roman Catholic patients now numbering 277 have their own chapel and visiting chaplain, while members of the Free Churches, 171 in number, are in the care of a visiting chaplain who conducts Divine Service weekly in the Hospital Chapel, which was designed in 1850 to seat 500 people and has much the same appearance now except for the removal of the galleries, as it had then. There are 877 patients who are members of the Church of England and whose welfare is under the direction of a full-time chaplain, who combines his clerical duties with valuable functions in the field of recreation and sport for patients and staff.

The General Nursing Council of England and Wales

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW COUNCIL was held on September 22nd, at 23, Portland Place, W.1.

Election of Chairman.

As there was only one nomination for the Chairmanship for the ensuing year, Miss D. M. Smith was re-elected.

Election of Vice-Chairman.

There were two nominations for the Vice-Chairmanship, Miss C. Alexander and Miss J. M. Calder, which necessitated an election. Miss Alexander was re-elected for the ensuing year.

Members Appointed by the Minister of Health.

The following members were appointed:—

Miss J. McKinlay Calder, M.B.E., S.R.N., County Hall, London.
P. H. Constable, Esq., M.A., F.H.A., St. George's Hospital, London.
Miss R. B. McK. Darroch, S.R.N., Liverpool Royal Infirmary.

V. W. Grosvenor, Esq., LL.B., J.P., 113, Colmore Row, Birmingham, 3.

Miss E. M. Hedges, S.R.N., General Hospital, Nottingham.

Miss D. L. Holland, S.R.N., Guy's Hospital, London.

Miss M. G. Lawson, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., S.R.N., Ministry of Health, Whitehall.

Miss F. E. Lillywhite, S.R.N., County Offices, Aylesbury.

Professor R. M. F. Picken, C.B.E., Welsh National School of Medicine, Cardiff.

D. E. Sands, Esq., M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.M., St. Ebba's Hospital, Epsom.

A. J. Sayer, Esq., M.B.E., S.R.N., Hackney Hospital, London.

H. G. Trayer, Esq., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., Baguley Lodge, Floats Road, Manchester.

Members Appointed by the Minister of Education.

Miss A. Catnach, B.A., Putney County Secondary Grammar School.

J. Ewing, Esq., M.A., D.Sc., Church Farm House, Tuddenham, Ipswich.

L. Tait, Esq., B.A., Town Hall, Peterborough.

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