

Hurley Hospital Nurses' Residence

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A NEW million-dollar city hospital, rising ten stories on the highest point of land in the city and dwarfing the cluster of small structures used at present, is now ready for occupancy in Flint, Mich. This structure, with the new Nurses' Home, completed at a cost of approximately one-half million dollars, will give to Flint a hospital plant and nursing facilities, equalled by few and excelled, perhaps, by no city of similar size in America.

The opening of the hospital marked a new era in working and living conditions for nurses and in treatment of patients in Flint. Obviously handicapped for years by inadequacy of quarters and equipment, the nursing profession has striven to give the ever-increasing number of sick and injured persons efficient care. The need for elaborate nursing facilities is emphasized best by the knowledge that Flint has grown from a sawmill town of 13,000 population, in 1910, to the second automobile manufacturing center of the world, in 1928, with a population in excess of 150,000.

The new building contains accommodations for 300 patients and 100 additional ones will be cared for by continued utilization of the buildings occupied at present. Six-bed wards are the largest in the building. This is viewed as an improvement over the system of having larger wards, as it is felt that the nurse will have less trouble in ministering to the patients. The patients will benefit also from the standpoint of privacy and health, with the chances of cross-infection minimized.

The hospital is equipped also with a considerably large number of rooms containing two, three and four beds,

making it more pleasant for patients who do not wish to be alone during sickness.

Dining rooms for the various groups are situated in the basement. Here table facilities are provided for student nurses, graduate nurses, twenty internes, and other members of the hospital staff. The dining rooms are decorated beautifully with different color schemes carried out in each room. The tables seat six persons.

One of the most important features of the new building, affecting the nursing profession, is the Merliss C. Brown medical auditorium. This room, which has the appearance of a large amphitheater, will be used by the nurses for various class functions, graduation and lectures. The building, which will be used also by physicians and surgeons for clinical purposes, will seat approximately 200. The entrance to the auditorium is from the basement level and the room itself is located so that natural light is provided through a skylight.

The undergraduate nurses have headquarters for classes, social activities and their residence in the Nurses' Home across the street from the hospital building. In addition to their regular instruction they receive from one to two months' instruction in the public health field by participating in the nursing program of the King's Daughters.

One of the most important steps that the Hurley Hospital Nursing School has taken in recent years was its affiliation with the Flint Junior College which was effected in the fall of 1927. Beginning with the second semester in February, student nurses of the September group took the courses in bacteriology and chemistry.