

POST OF DIRECTOR IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Name of Applicant - HESTER CONSTANCE PARSONS ✓

Address - C/o Matron's Office, St Thomas's Hospital, S.E. 1.

State Registration No. - 30692. ✓

College Roll No. - 23423. ✓

* Age - 37 years. ✓

Training School - St Thomas's Hospital. ✓

Qualifications - Higher & Lower Certificate of the Oxford & Cambridge Joint Board; Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board; Diploma in Nursing of the University of London. ✓

Experience and positions held with dates. - Holiday Sister, June 1924 - May 1925. Sister of Alexandra Ward, May 1925 - January 1928. Night Superintendent, January 1928 - January 1930. Office Sister - January 1930 - May 1930. Sister of St Thomas's Home for Private Patients, May 1930 - August 1930. Office Sister & Second Assistant Matron, August 1930. ✓

Testimonials from - Alicia Lloyd Still, Matron, St Thomas's Hospital, S.E. 1.
Cuthbert Wallace Esq., 26 Upper Wimpole Street,
H. Maclean Esq., MD., DSc., FRCP., Professor of Medicine, University of London,
Director, Medical Unit, St Thomas's Hospital.

* Where Educated - Berkhamstead Girls Grammar School.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL

Matron's Office,
St. Thomas's Hospital,
S.E. 1.

October 3rd, 1930.

Miss Hester Constance Parsons entered the Nightingale Training School, St. Thomas's Hospital, in May 1919. During her training she gained excellent experience in the wards and special departments of the Hospital and in her fourth year obtained experience in the Tuberculosis department as Charge Nurse and in St. Thomas's Home for Private Patients. Miss Parsons also undertook ward sisters' holiday duties, thus gaining valuable insight into ward administration.

Miss Parsons completed her training in October 1923, passing all her Hospital examinations in Class A. She was awarded an Honour Certificate and holds the Gold Medal of her year.

Subsequently Miss Parsons took her Midwifery training and has obtained the Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board. In 1929 Miss Parsons studied for, and obtained, the Diploma in Nursing of the London University.

In June 1924 Miss Parsons was appointed Sister and undertook various administrative posts in the Hospital, as her abilities seemed particularly suited to administrative work. The posts she held included Sister in Matron's Office, and Sister in Charge of the Dining Room, both posts involving the organisation of the work and supervision of the domestic staff. Subsequently Miss Parsons was appointed Sister in charge of a women's surgical ward of thirty beds.

In January 1928 Miss Parsons was transferred to the position of Night Superintendent, in which position she is responsible for the organisation, supervision and general care of the Hospital at night. This includes the entire charge at night of the wards, with the supervision and organisation of the nurses' work.

In June 1930 Miss Parsons was appointed temporarily for three months Sister in charge of St. Thomas's Home for Private Patients. St. Thomas's Home, while under the Hospital administration, has its own organisation apart and the Sister in charge is responsible for the entire nursing and domestic arrangements, including the nursing and theatre staff, the domestic and kitchen staff and porters. She does the housekeeping and is responsible for the linen room.

At the expiration of this temporary appointment Miss Parsons was appointed Senior Office Sister which is equivalent to that of Second Assistant Matron and this post Miss Parsons still holds. She is responsible for the maids and the supervision of their work and the rooms; also for the supervision of several blocks of dormitories. She is in charge of all correspondence relating to the Massage Students whether resident or non-resident, and the records of their work.

Miss Parsons is an educated gentlewoman and has had exceptional opportunities of gaining wide practical experience in nursing and general Hospital administration. She has held posts of great responsibility in the Hospital in all of which she has proved herself an organiser of no mean ability, showing powers of reasoning, balanced judgment and practical commonsense. She works conscientiously with her colleagues and will ever give of her best to any work which she may take up in which her interests are enthusiastically engaged.

(Signed) ALICIA LLOYD STILL

Matron St. Thomas's Hospital
Superintendent
Nightingale Training
School.

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL

26, Upper Wimpole Street,
W. 1.

July 30th, 1930.

Miss H.C. Parsons was for a considerable period the Sister of my Female Ward at St. Thomas's Hospital and I formed the highest possible opinion of her professional attainments. I have been fortunate in my Ward Sisters but I have never had a more capable than Miss Parsons.

She is kind, firm, cheerful and possessed of administrative ability. Since Miss Parsons ceased to be my Sister and passed to higher posts I have knowledge that she has added to her reputation.

I am sure that she has all the characteristics of a good Director and in addition is a kindly and well-read English lady.

She is a good nurse and has the power of enforcing her standard on her staff.

(Signed) CUTHBERT WALLACE

COPY OF TESTIMONIAL

2, Elm Park Gardens,
Chelsea, S.W. 10.

October 3rd, 1930.

Miss Hester C. Parsons informs me that she is a candidate for the post of Director in the Education Department of the College of Nursing.

I have known Miss Parsons for several years and can testify to her many outstanding qualities for a post such as that for which she is now applying.

Miss Parsons is an excellent organiser and has a thorough training in all the ordinary branches of nursing work. That her ability is far above the ordinary is proved by the fact that she won the Gold Medal of her year at St. Thomas's Hospital. She also holds the Diploma in Nursing of the University of London.

Miss Parsons has done duty in my medical wards and has always proved most satisfactory in every way. She has had considerable experience of both medical and surgical work and is an excellent practical nurse. Personally she is very helpful and easy to work with, and I am certain that she will prove a very pleasant colleague in any sphere in which she may find herself.

I feel certain that she possesses the qualifications necessary and have much pleasure in recommending her for the post she now seeks.

(Signed) H. MACLEAN, MD., DSc., FRCP.,

Professor of Medicine, University
of London.

Director, Medical Unit,
St. Thomas's Hospital.