

The Hospital World.

A NEW ASYLUM.

Nestling down amongst the lovely mountains and hills of Breconshire is the sleepy old town of Talgarth, as old-world a place as it is possible to find in these days. But recently a new feature has appeared in the landscape, for a large joint asylum has now been built above the town for the counties of Breconshire and Radnorshire. The asylum is designed to accommodate 350 patients, and the cost of the building will be about £120,000. It is built on the block system, and there are six blocks for the patients—namely, one for male and one for female epileptics, one for male and one for female recent and acute cases, and two infirmary blocks, one for males and one for females. Another block accommodates the Matron, Assistant Superintendent and principal officials, while in the administrative block is accommodation for attendants, store-rooms, &c.

A feature of the arrangements for the patients is that the day rooms and dormitories adjoin each other on the same floor, thus facilitating the work of the attendants. There is also a workshop block where such patients as are able will be encouraged to spend their time in working at trades.

The dining hall, which is also designed to be used as a theatre, is in the centre of the main building, and will accommodate 500 people when dining. It can easily be reached from all parts of the institution by means of corridors. It has an arched roof supported by pilasters, and is provided with a fine stage, which can be used for concerts, lectures, entertainments, or dramatic performances. There is an isolation hospital detached from the main building, and other buildings are a well-arranged chapel, a mortuary, and a laundry.

The water supply for the asylum is brought direct from the Black Mountains and stored in a reservoir having a storage for about 144,000 gallons. The rain-water collected from the roofs and stored in a tank provides soft water for laundry purposes.

Surely in the fine and salubrious air of this lovely country, surrounded by glorious scenery, we may hope that both mental and bodily health will be restored to many.

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE.

It is announced that a Parsee gentleman, Mr. Bomanji Dinshaw Petit, who was appointed a member of the Legislative Council of Bombay by Lord Sandhurst when he was Governor of that province, has contributed a lakh of rupees to the London School of Tropical Medicine, with the object of awakening an active interest in its work among British residents in the tropics. We hope this generous gift will attain the desired object.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The military authorities have decided to hold an inquiry into the state of Netley Hospital, and to take steps to bring that institution up to the standard of modern efficiency. It is stated that the hospital is in an unsanitary condition, and that radical structural alterations are needed to bring it into line with modern medical and nursing requirements.

The British Association, at its general committee meeting in Belfast, elected Sir Norman Lockyer as president of next year's meeting, which is to be held at Southport.

The next conference on tuberculosis will be held in Berlin, from October 22nd to 26th. The subjects suggested for debate are: (1) Position of Governments with regard to the prevention of consumption; (2) obligation to give information to the police; (3) organisation of dispensaries; (4) the task of schools with regard to the prevention of consumption; (5) precautions against the dangers of milk; (6) tuberculosis during infancy; (7) protection of labour and prevention of consumption; (8) classification and different modes of accommodating consumptives. The meeting of the special committee on the last day of the conference is to be devoted to questions of organisation.

There is much for the sociologist to study in the discussions on overcrowding and the drink question as factors in the causation of disease. A speaker at the British Congress on Tuberculosis quoted Mr. Rowntree's statement that "the average expenditure per family among working people upon excisable liquor is 6s. per week," a sum which if added to that already spent on rent would enable many a family to afford a decent home instead of a slum habitation.

The Governors of the Selby Brooke Dispensary and Cottage Hospital have received from the Archbishop of York a sum of £1,000 from the Marriott bequest for the benefit of the Cottage Hospital Endowment Fund.

The Crewe Memorial Cottage Hospital has come into a legacy of £100, under the will of Mr. J. C. Wilkinson, for a number of years employed as a plumber by the London and North Western Railway Company.

The authorities of the Isle of Wight County Asylum have elected Miss Wilkinson, of Edinburgh, to the vacant office of assistant medical superintendent.

The University of Edinburgh has received from Sir A. Conan Doyle a cheque for £1,000, being the balance of the profits on the sale of his South African War pamphlet. He desires the Senatus to institute a bursary in the Faculty of Medicine, available only for students from South Africa. The bursary is to be administered in detail as the University may direct.

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