

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

Princess Alice Countess of Athlone has presented a site to the Deptford Fund for the purpose of extending the Hospital for Sick Babies. The gift is to serve the dual purpose of commemorating Princess Alice's silver wedding and the foundation of the fund by her mother, the late Duchess of Albany.

H.H. Princess Helena Victoria has graciously consented to attend the Anniversary Festival to be held at the South London Hospital for Women on Saturday, June 1st, and will open the Garden Fete which will be a prominent feature of the proceedings.

At the Quarterly Court of Governors of the London Hospital, Lord Knutsford, who presided, said that the new Local Government Act had been of great interest to the Committee. As the Governors were aware, the whole of the medical service of London was to be put under the London County Council, who would thus be responsible for the asylums, the fever hospitals, and the present poor-law infirmaries, which would become municipal hospitals. The position of the voluntary hospitals was as yet not clear, but the Committee had passed a resolution, which had been sent to the Minister of Health and to the London County Council, offering their co-operation with a view to the further co-ordination and improvement of the hospital service of London.

Mr. George Verity, Chairman of Charing Cross Hospital, of which H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll is President, has issued a most attractive annual pamphlet on the work of the hospital, adopting as its motto for this year "The Triangle of Health, Hope, and Happiness." Since the Committee had the good fortune to acquire the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, the hospital itself forms a triangle with Chandos Street to the north, Agar Street to the east and King William Street to the south. Then three great things both nationally and internationally have tended to make its name famous—the Cross, erected hundreds of years ago by Edward I in memory of his noble wife, "Queen Eleanor." The derivation of the word is supposed to be from the French *chère reine* (a beloved queen).

Mr. Verity writes "We are searching industriously for a site where we can erect a Nurses' Hostel which will enable the ladies of the staff to be comfortably housed. With the splendid work they are doing they deserve this, and I must confess it lies very near my heart."

Again, expressing his gratitude to the staff, the House Governor (Mr. Philip Inman), the Matron (Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., F.B.C.N.), and the Lady Almoner, Mr. Verity writes: "Our Matron is carrying on her work magnificently under conditions which are by no means easy, but she recognises the necessity for patience like we all do."

We should advise those interested to send for the pamphlet, they will be more interested still, and, when they read that in spite of the vast amount of work accomplished "the hospital is absolutely free of debt," like any honest individual, then they will surely adopt it as their very own.

The Lord Mayor, presiding at the Mansion House, at the annual Court of Governors of the Royal Waterloo Hospital, S.E., moved a Resolution:—

"That the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children and Women is in every way worthy of support, and has strong and peculiar claims upon the City of London."

The Lord Mayor said that, as the outcome of a meeting

held in April, 1816, at the City of London Tavern, with the Lord Mayor in the chair, a dispensary was established at 5A, St. Andrew's Hill, Doctors Commons. There it remained until 1823, when it was removed to the position in Waterloo Road, which formed part of the site of the present building. The Lord Mayor, in right of his office, is president of the institution.

The Lord Mayor of London (Sir Kynaston Studd), accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs, visited the City Road on March 15th, to attend the annual meeting of St. Mark's Hospital, an institution which during its 93 years of existence has always enjoyed the special patronage of the City.

Sir Kynaston Studd said that this hospital, which was for cancer and other diseases of the rectum, had done excellent work during the year. The number of patients admitted to the wards was 820, and nearly 900 operations had been performed. The hospital recently had been enlarged, and the number of beds increased to 72, with a resulting increase of work in all departments, so that further extensions were already necessary, including additional accommodation for nurses, a second operating theatre, and an extension of the cancer research laboratories. These extensions would entail an expenditure of £30,000.

Lord Queenborough, who presided, at his house in Berkeley Square, W., at the inaugural meeting of the Grand Appeal Committee of the Miller General Hospital, Greenwich, said that the object of the gathering was to support in the most efficient manner the grand appeal in connection with the opening of the hospital on May 14th by the Duchess of York.

Mr. William C. Teacher, of Cove, has given £10,000 for the foundation of a lectureship in bacteriology at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow.

THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

In the House of Commons on March 7th, Lieut.-Com. Kenworthy (Hull Central, Labour) asked the Secretary of State for Home Affairs if he would state what medical examinations were made of women and girls entering British ports from France; under what regulations these examinations were made and in what cases; if he was aware that there had been indignation in France over the alleged humiliating nature of these examinations in certain cases; and whether he would cause inquiries to be made.

Sir W. Joynson-Hicks, Home Secretary, replied:—The Aliens Order, 1920, provides that leave to land in the United Kingdom shall not be given to an alien if a medical inspector certifies that for medical reasons it is undesirable that the alien should be permitted to land; and for the purposes of the Order, medical inspectors are appointed by an Act under instructions issued by the Minister of Health, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State. Legally every alien, whether arriving from France or elsewhere, is liable to medical examination, but in the absence of special reasons it is the practice only to examine those who propose to stay for a considerable period, and in the case of women and girls the examination, at which a Nurse or female attendant is present, is usually of a superficial character. . . . I may, perhaps, add that there is no examination of women for venereal disease. I am anxious to remove any possible source of friction, and I am considering with my right hon. friend what, if any, modification of the existing instructions might usefully be made.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)