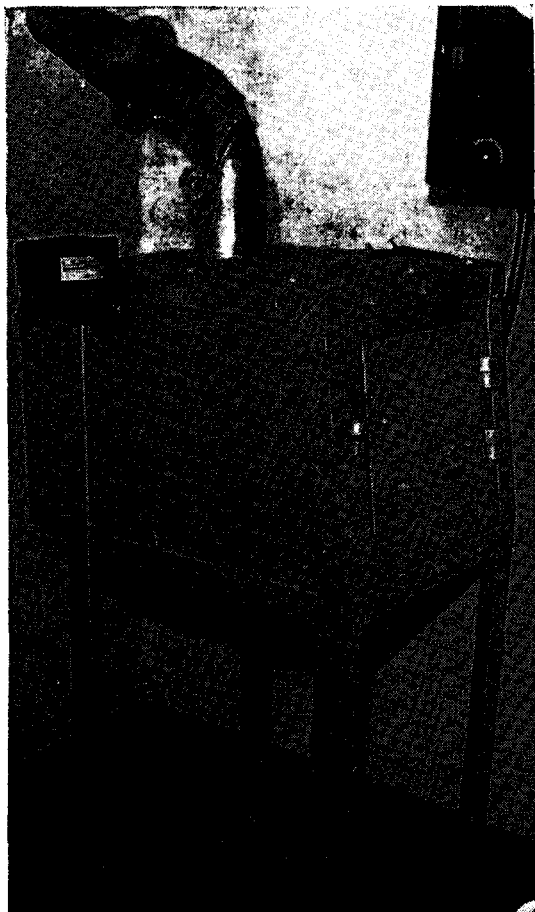


New Equipment for Northern Sanatorium.



The newly-designed Electrical Incinerator.

A FURTHER STEP IN THE FIGHT against the spread of tuberculosis has just been taken by one of the most up-to-date and progressive sanatoria in the country.

The Kingussie Sanatorium, Inverness-shire, where a large modern extension was formally opened on June 17th, has just installed a newly designed electrical incinerator for the destruction of T.B. sputum.

In institutions where metal or porcelain containers are used then sterilised, a temperature of over 300 deg. C. is required to be absolutely lethal to the bacteria; obviously, this system cannot be guaranteed entirely foolproof or accident-proof. Where cardboard containers are used, the safe disposal of these is always a problem.

The Kingussie authorities knew exactly what they wanted, but it was some eight months before they finally found someone to translate those ideas into practical form. Then, Mr. C. H. McDowell, Chairman and Director of the Incinerator Co., Ltd., Victoria Street, London, designed the incinerator which is now giving complete satisfaction.

This new equipment is constructed of steel plate outer casing lined with insulating refractory. The heating elements are embedded in the walls and roof and connected to a "Sunvic" control box. The operator can maintain the furnace at a given temperature, say 600 deg. C., and this is recorded on a Pyrometer with large dial type temperature scale, fitted at one side.

The sputum cups used at Kingussie are waxed cups with

screw-on waxed lid. These, 25 or so at a time, are loaded on a special steel tray and slid into the incinerator; after about twenty minutes all that is left is a small pile of ash which disintegrates into fine sterile dust. Other medical waste can be destroyed as easily and safely in this incinerator.

This prototype model was regarded as an experiment both by the Sanatorium and the Incinerator Company, but having proved its worth so satisfactorily, future models will be finished in cream enamel over the steel casing.

The Kingussie Sanatorium, while taking patients of any denomination, is maintained and staffed by the Sisters of Charity of the Order of Ss. Vincent and Paul and depends largely on voluntary contributions. This is one of the most beautifully equipped sanatoria in the country and its situation, a thousand feet above sea level amongst the scented pines, heather and blueberries, with a wide view of the Spey Valley, is breath-taking in its loveliness.

E. R.

Interesting Exhibitions.

NOVEL FEATURE OF A Toy Making Competition which is being held at this year's Mothercraft Exhibition, Central Hall, October 30th to November 12th, is that the final judging will be carried out by a panel of children, aged from five to ten years.

Leslie Hardern, the organiser of the Television Inventors' Club, considers that many modern toys are expensive rubbish, and that there are throughout the country, fathers, brothers, uncles, capable of designing better and more durable toys.

Leslie Hardern, with Paul and Marjory Abbott, the well-known toy makers, will select 12 exhibits from which the children themselves will choose the final prize winners.

A competition, the first of its kind in the world, is a baby-handling competition for men only. In days when many a male has to take his turn at baby-sitting, it is felt that the time has come to encourage his efforts with substantial cash prizes and certificates of efficiency. Those too shy to enter themselves may gain valuable hints from watching their fellow men, and listening to Matron's criticisms.

A National Handicrafts Exhibition is also being held at the Central Hall, currently with the Mothercraft Exhibition, the one entry fee of 1s. covering both Exhibitions.

There are competitions for weaving, woodwork, lampshade making, jewellery, basketry, metalwork, pottery, needlework, knitting and miscellaneous handicrafts.

In addition to over £150 in cash, prizes include television sets, vacuum cleaners, washing machines, bronze and silver medals, etc. For full details and entry forms enclose an addressed envelope, stamped 1½d., to the Organising Secretary, 40, Holland Park, London, W.11.

A Shortage of 15,000 Hospital Beds in Australia.

THE AUSTRALIAN MINISTER OF HEALTH has announced, in Tasmania, that the Commonwealth is confronted by a shortage of 15,000 hospital beds—and already there is an acute shortage of staff for what beds there are.

The provision of that accommodation, he said, would cost about £60 million. The population of 10 million expected by 1960 will be short of 30 thousand beds.

Many hospitals today were hopelessly out-of-date. They could not provide modern facilities for treatment—and decent accommodation for nursing and domestic staff. This accentuated staff shortage.

The U.S. Army Adopts A Paper Dressing.

A VAST NUMBER OF A newly devised paper dressing for large and multiple wounds, and atomic burns, are being made for the American Army.

It is a 22 inch wide single pad with half an inch of absorbent cotton under 15 layers of cellulose paper, and an outer layer of tough paper.

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