

£40,000, and for this scheme there were made two offers of £2,000 each, while Mr. E. P. Wills, of the firm of W. D. and H. O. Wills, offered the gift of a building on Durdham Down.

It has been decided, at a recent meeting at Norwich, to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by rebuilding the Children's Hospital, on a site given by Mr. J. J. Colman. The Institution was founded by Jenny Lind. Lord Leicester, who presided, and started the fund with a donation of £2,000, said he was at the Queen's Coronation, acting as page to the Duke of Sussex, and had been Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk for more than half a century.

The committee appointed in Manchester to consider the form which the commemoration should take, has reported in favour of applying the fund to the erection of a statue of the Queen and increasing the accommodation required at the Royal Infirmary.

Mr. Passmore Edwards has offered £2,000 towards the erection of a Victoria cottage hospital at Acton, in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee, on condition that some one else presents a site, and that a local fund is raised for the endowment of the institution.

The Dundee Town Council have voted £2,000 from the "common good" of the borough towards the fund for the erection of a hospital for incurables, to commemorate Her Majesty's long reign. It is proposed to raise £50,000 for the carrying out of the establishment of a hospital, with 65 beds, for the treatment of cancer cases, and also, to a certain extent, cases of consumption. At a recent meeting of the committee in connection with the scheme, it was stated that an anonymous offer of £1,000 had been made on condition that consumption cases were dealt with. Associated with these proposals is a scheme for the erection of a maternity hospital, towards which £10,000 has been raised—namely, £5,000 from the Cobb trustees and £5,000 by public subscription.

A meeting of Glasgow citizens was held lately to consider what scheme should be adopted to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It was agreed to raise a fund to rebuild the older portion of the Royal Infirmary. Lord Provost Richmond, who presided, announced subscriptions amounting to £14,700. These included two sums of £5,000, the one given by ex-Lord Provost Muir for himself and partners in the firm of Messrs. James Finlay and Co., and the other by a gentleman who did not wish to have his name disclosed at the meeting.

It is proposed to erect a nursing establishment in connection with Steevens' Hospital, Dublin, in commemoration of the 60th year of Her Majesty's reign. The scheme is well under way, the honorary officers have been appointed, and they propose to proceed at once to carry out the project.

It has been decided at a meeting held at the British Consulate at Naples, to present an address to the Queen, and that a bed, to be called the Victoria bed, shall be endowed by subscription at the International Hospital, which is British property, to be kept for the use of deserving British subjects.

Professional Reviews.

WE have received "The Swedish System of Physical Education," by Theodora Johnson, Principal of the Swedish Institute, Clifton, Bristol, published by Messrs. Wright & Co., Bristol, price 3s. 6d. net. The book is an exposition of the Swedish system of physical training as evolved by Professor Pehr Henrik Ling, and will be read with appreciation by all those who are interested in this form of treatment. Professor Ling fully believed in the advantage of a system exercise, based on scientific knowledge, as a therapeutic agent, and for thirty years patiently worked with a view to developing the best methods of its application. At last his efforts were rewarded by the establishment of the Royal Central Institute for Gymnastics in Stockholm, and he was made first President of this Institution. The course of study at the Institute extends over two years for women, and three years for men, as the latter, in addition to the educational and medical branches, pass also through the Military Department. It is noteworthy that without direct authorisation from the Central Institute, or from the Medical Faculty, it is illegal in Sweden to teach gymnastics, or to attempt to practise massage independently. After reading the account of the thorough education demanded in Sweden, we are not surprised to find Miss Johnson incredulous as to the value of a certificate given after a course of *six lessons*, in which are professedly acquired the requisite knowledge of anatomy, physiology, and disease, with its treatment by manipulation, or that the instruction imparted by "a so-called School of Massage," in a six weeks' course, appears to her inadequate to the last degree. No wonder that the "specialist," as so developed, is considered unnecessary by medical men to carry out their directions, and that we are told of one member of the medical profession who said, in response to a patient's request for massage, "There is not the slightest need to send for a specialist, the gardener or housemaid, could just do it."

Miss Johnson is of opinion that "not until the evil arising from this deplorable state of things in our country is fully realised, and condemned, by the medical profession, and by public opinion, will it be remedied. Following the example of Sweden, a Government school could then be established, certificates from which alone would qualify for registration, and authorise the practice of massage, we should then no longer hear of the exploits of persons who, with most inadequate training, trade upon the ignorance of a gullible public, causing pain and exhaustion, if not serious injury, and so bring 'massage' into sorry disrepute." At present there is only one college in England (Madame Bergman-Osterberg's College, Dartford, Kent) where a full training can as yet be acquired, and there unfortunately by women only. It is, as we are told, distinctly unusual for any advantage—educational or otherwise—to accrue first to the feminine portion of the population, and the reason given for it in this instance is, that "conservatism blocks our progress," in displacing the gymnastic systems in use amongst boys, while the comparative void in girls' schools is easier to fill. The Swedish system as taught at the Royal Institute, Stockholm, is divided into four branches, which to some extent intertwine. They are Educational, Medical, Military and Æsthetic. We advise all our readers to procure and read Miss Johnson's interesting exposition of the system.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)