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Editorial.

A NOVEL HOSPITAL INQUIRY.

THE greatest interest has, naturally, been aroused in the hospital world by the announcement which has been made that "the Council (of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London) considers it essential that a committee of inquiry be at once appointed to visit personally and examine the various hospitals of the Metropolis with a view to ascertaining their present condition, needs, and merits, for the allocation of the funds received during 1898." At the first annual meeting of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, held last week, this resolution was passed unanimously, and the Prince of Wales further announced that the proposed committee of inquiry would be composed solely of members of the Council of the Fund; and, moreover, that "these inquiries should be kept private."

We recognize as cordially as anyone the great services which the Prince of Wales has always rendered to charitable and philanthropic undertakings; and we are perhaps even more convinced of the real interest and active work, which His Royal Highness

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