

Viscountess Falkland will open the Princess Mary Convalescent Home, Bognor, the seaside branch of the East London Hospital for Children, on November 16.

The Isolation Hospital at St. Mary's, Broadstairs, was burned to the ground last week.

Some months ago Mr. E. J. Cash, wrote to the *Birmingham Daily Gazette*, making untrue and defamatory statements concerning the management of the Birmingham Homœopathic Hospital, and the feeding of the patients in that institution. The Committee of the Hospital, therefore, wisely commenced an action against Mr. Cash, whose conduct is the more unjustifiable and inexplicable, as his wife had made a most excellent recovery after a most severe and critical operation, owing to the care she had received at the Homœopathic Hospital. Mr. Cash has thought it wisdom, in consequence of the action brought against him, to make an unqualified withdrawal of his accusations in the letter which we publish below.

To the Committee of the Birmingham and Midland Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary.

Gentlemen,—In my letter to the *Daily Gazette* of the 1st September last, my statements with reference to the quality of the meat and vegetables, and "that the patients' friends feed them entirely," are untrue; and my statements as to the quality of the butter, and that "the nurses have to spend all their pocket-money to get food they can eat," are inaccurate and exaggerated. I greatly regret and apologise for having made such statements, and beg to withdraw them. I am willing to pay the proper costs of your solicitors, and of inserting this letter in the *Daily Gazette*.—Yours, &c.,  
E. J. CASH.

The position is a humiliating one, but one in which those who circulate false statements are apt to find themselves.

A meeting was held at York, last week, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, to consider a proposal to establish a sanatorium for consumptives in the country. Sir W. Broadbent combated the prevalent idea that consumption was hereditary. For the enormous mass of patients there were, public provision was absolutely wanting. What was wanted for the cure of consumption was simply open-air treatment, which had been attended with admirable results in Edinburgh, and what was desired was that near every great centre of population there should be an institution for the open-air treatment of phthisis. For the realisation of this idea the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption had been formed. Mr. M. A. Morris, the treasurer of the association, advocated local effort by every town in England to start its own sanatorium. It was resolved to be desirable to found a sanatorium for the cure of consumption in Yorkshire, and an influential committee was appointed to formulate a practical scheme.

The Mayor of Stockport (Mr. Alderman Giles Atherton), last week, laid the foundation stone of the Victoria Diamond Jubilee extension of the Stockport Infirmary. The cost is estimated at over £10,000.

The new Sanatorium at Huddersfield was recently opened by Sir William Broadbent, Bart., M.D. The building includes four commodious main blocks and

and several smaller ones. The structure is plain, with Elizabethan gables and a Norman doorway. One pavilion is to be devoted to scarlet fever patients, a second to convalescents, and a third to typhoid patients. The floors are fire-proof, and of polished teak squares, and the walls and ceilings are painted and varnished. The cooking and laundry appliances are of the most modern description.

Urban Sanitary Authorities are beginning to realise that one of their most important duties is to supply isolation hospitals for infectious cases. Many districts have no such provision, even in large cities such as Lincoln, so far, no isolation hospital exists.

Dr. Joseph Priestly has been appointed teacher of hygiene in the British Institute of Preventive Medicine

The New Zealand Legislative Council has passed the third reading of the Old Age Pension Bill by 21 votes against 13.

There is great disorganization in the State of Mississippi, owing to the outbreak of yellow fever, and it is stated that those high in authority are deserting their posts through fear of disease. The Government cannot furnish nurses or physicians for the sufferers, and can only establish detention camps, and maintain a corps of inspectors and physicians.

According to the report of the Governor-General of Turkestan an epidemic disease, with a high rate of mortality, has broken out in Anzob, a village in Samarkand. The disease shows all the symptoms of plague, though it has not been definitely proved to be such, as bacteriological investigations have not yet been instituted.

The *St. Petersburger Zeitung* states that the Russian Commission charged to take measures for preventing the spread of the plague, has engaged thirty doctors and ten lady doctors to set out immediately for Samarkand. It is added that some of the doctors have already started.

It is announced from Warsaw, on the authority of a local newspaper, that a woman, aged fifty-six, who was brought to Jesus Hospital, died after twenty-four hours, the physicians having decided that it was a case of plague.

The recent unfortunate plague scare at Vienna, and the possibility of an outbreak at Samarkand, lend additional interest to any statistics as to the efficiency of the modern process of inoculation against this terrible scourge. Some figures bearing on the point have recently been published in the case of Hubli, a town in India of about 40,000 inhabitants. Up to September 7th, 35,000 had been inoculated as a protection against plague, about two-thirds of this number having undergone the operation twice. By far the greater number of deaths which have occurred in the town due to the outbreak of plague have occurred amongst the people who have not been inoculated. The returns given for the first week in September show that amongst 32,000 inoculated persons there were only sixty-nine attacked by the disease, whilst amongst 8,500 uninoculated there were 417 attacked.

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