

Lord Balfour of Burleigh presided last week at the Annual Meeting of the London Fever Hospital, held at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue. The annual report stated that 700 cases, of which 448 were scarlet fever, had been treated during the past year. Although this was an increase upon the previous year the death rate had decreased 1.4 per cent. The Chairman in commenting on the report said that part of the hospital had been condemned by the committee of the Prince of Wales' Fund as being old and inadequate. He agreed in this opinion, but thought that the Committee of the Fund might well assist them in making the hospital more modern and in building a much needed convalescent home.

A strongly-worded resolution was passed at the annual meeting of the donors and subscribers to St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, expressing the deep disappointment of the Governors that the Hospital had once more received no assistance from the Prince of Wales' Fund, and that the Committee of the Fund had seen fit to publish a report stating that the financial position of the Hospital did not seem to require help this year. Mr. Merriman, who proposed the resolution, said that he thought it would be a good thing to send a copy to the Committee of the Prince's Fund and ask for some explanation. He put down the fact that they had not received any grant to the action of Sir Henry Burdett. His opinion with regard to special hospitals was notorious, and everyone knew that he was most keen that all the money should go to the big hospitals, but he did not see why that gentleman should be allowed to ride, rough-shod, over such an institution as St. Mark's. The resolution was carried and it was agreed that a copy should be sent to the Secretary of the Fund.

Sir Savile Crossley, the secretary of the Prince of Wales' Fund, states that the printed account of the hospital shows the ordinary income at £4,986, the ordinary expenditure £3,429, the extraordinary income (legacies) £804, and the extraordinary expenditure nil. A further sum received from the Festival Dinner is not included in this calculation. It seems as if there must be some misapprehension on the part of the Committee of the Prince's Fund, for the annual report of St. Mark's Hospital states that it is only by careful management and the employment of legacies received during the year that the committee have been able to meet the expenditure.

Princess Henry of Battenberg recently presided at a meeting of the Governors of the Isle of Wight Infirmary and County Hospital, at Newport. It was stated that five cots had been endowed at a cost of £1,000 each, and that thirty-seven little patients had already been received and beneficially treated in the Diamond Jubilee Ward, a statement with which the Princess expressed much satisfaction.

Princess Henry appears to be discharging the duties of her office as Governor of the Isle of Wight with ability and zeal. We hope that other women may in the future be appointed to similar offices, for it is evident that they have aptitude for holding such positions.

A charming new isolation hospital was opened last week for the Borough of Southampton by the Mayor, Mr. Alderman G. A. E. Hussey. The building stands on ten acres of high ground, and comprises an administration block and two pavilions for scarlet fever, one for typhoid fever and diphtheria, and one for the isolation of doubtful cases and for private patients, in all accommodating 72 patients. There is also an ambulance block, and out-bathing station, and a mortuary, the lobby of which is divided from the mortuary proper by a large sheet of plate glass hermetically sealed, so that relatives can view the bodies without risk of infection.

From the annual report of the Dorset County Hospital we learn that much good work has been done during the past year. On the 22nd April the Bishop of the Diocese dedicated a new stained glass east window in the chapel, which had been presented by Colonel Robert Williams, M.P., and his sisters, in memory of their father and brother. It has added greatly to the beauty of the chapel, which was the gift of the late Mr. Robert Williams. A new frontal for the Holy Table has also been given by friends of the hospital.

Miss Hayes, who served as matron to the satisfaction of the committee for five years, resigned in September, having undertaken the superintendence of a private nursing home. Miss Edwards, who has been a nurse in the hospital for seven years, has been elected as the new matron.

We are sorry to hear that an attempt made at a meeting of the Governors of the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital at Eastbourne last week, to secure the appointment of ladies on the Committee of Management has once more failed, but was only defeated by the narrow margin of four votes. It is noteworthy that the proposition was opposed by the large majority of the medical staff. Why do medical men so often adopt the rôle of Mrs. Partington?

The first Women's Hygiene Exhibition has been opened at St. Petersburg. There was a large attendance of visitors from abroad, especially from London, Berlin, and Stockholm.

An interesting and useful exhibition of hygienic appliances and of articles for the promotion of the general health, at which, as the secretary is an Englishman, Great Britain, no doubt, will be prominently represented, is to be held in Naples during the ensuing summer. An International Congress on the subject was held in London a few years ago, under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, when a bewilderingly large number of papers were read by eminent men from all parts of the world. Since then considerable advances have been made in the study of hygiene and demography, but it is surprising to find that in a place like Naples there is a great and crying need of ventilators for house drains. It will interest intending visitors to learn that a railway is about to be commenced, which will eventually run from Naples to the summit of the crater of Vesuvius, whilst a large restaurant is to be erected at an early date on Observatory Hill.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)