

Kennington Park, the centre of a poor and populous district, is a very wise step, and Princess Henry of Battenberg, on Monday, laid the foundation stone of the new hospital amidst much enthusiasm. In order to erect the hospital according to the plans accepted by the committee and to provide a small amount for initial expenses, a sum of £50,000 is required. So far £17,000 has been provided.

In the course of a short address concerning the hospital and its needs, the Chairman, Lord Windsor, said the greatest care would be taken that the advantages offered by the charity were not abused. The committee had determined to receive no payment at all from any of the patients. The cost of the new site was £4,000, the centre block and west wing would cost £25,000, the east wing £8,000, the South wing £6,000, and the out-patient department £5,000. It was intended in the first instance to erect the centre block and west wing and the out-patient department.

We feel sure when opened this beautiful new hospital, will prove a great blessing to the poor sick children in the district.

The Metropolitan Asylums Board met on Saturday for the first time in their new offices on the Victoria Embankment. The chairman, Sir E. Galsworthy, was presented with a gold casket and an address signed by 63 members, expressing appreciation of his services to the board during his chairmanship of 19 years. The fever returns showed that during the fortnight ended on Thursday last 797 persons suffering from fever had been admitted to the board's hospitals, 67 had died, and 659 had been discharged recovered.

Dr. Phillipson has been awarded a knighthood for services in connection with the Royal Victoria Infirmary Newcastle-on-Tyne, erected in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee.

The Hon. Stephen Coleridge, hon. secretary of the National Anti-Vivisection Society, writes:—Several newspapers have commented unfavourably upon the reported decision of the Nonconformists not to hand over their Hospital Sunday collections to the Lord Mayor because the Lord Mayor's distribution of the fund in no way secures that the money shall not support vivisection directly or indirectly. May I be permitted to say that, quite apart from the question of vivisection, I have authority for asserting that the Lord Mayor will not even guarantee that the money subscribed for the tending of the sick and committed to his charge shall not in part be spent in subsidising the medical schools, which are private institutions publishing no accounts? There is, therefore, at present nothing to prevent Hospital Sunday subscriptions being used to pay for the education of medical students, which is certainly not what the subscribers had in their minds when they gave their money.

The State of Pennsylvania is considering the advisability of opening its 100,000 acres of pure forest to consumptives. If this is done dwellings will be erected throughout the reservation and rented for the lowest sum compatible with maintenance. Consumptives will thus have all the open-air benefit of a camp without its expense or its discomfort in inclement weather.

The total number of plague cases at Rio de Janeiro since the outbreak has been 200, with 11 deaths.

## Our Foreign Letters.

### FROM AUSTRALIA.

Miss McGahey writes from Prince Alfred's Hospital, Sydney:—

Frequently during the past few weeks I intended to write and give you some news of our Hospital and its nurses, but pressure of work prevented me. About a fortnight ago, the second meeting of the old nurses took place in the Nurses' Home, at which there was a good attendance. The name has been changed from the Prince Alfred Hospital Graduates' Union to that of the "Prince Alfred Hospital Trained Nurses' Reunion," the majority of the nurses preferring the latter name. We shall meet every three months. At our next meeting papers will be read and discussed.

Five of our nurses are at present in South Africa, last week I had interesting letters from two of them who are at Wynberg, they seem very happy and have plenty of work.

A post-graduate course has been established here for nurses. For the past eleven years there has been a three year curriculum; according to our new rules every nurse will be at liberty to remain for four years, hitherto only a limited number could hope to avail themselves of such privileges. During the fourth year Midwifery and possibly Dispensing will be included in our post-graduate course. Arrangements will be made with one of the maternity hospitals to receive four of our nurses at a time and our hospital will defray the expenses. In order to meet this expense, probationers during the first year will not receive a salary, but an honorarium of £5 will be paid to each probationer to defray the cost. I quite agree with you, probationers during their course of training should not receive a salary, when they realize how much is done for them in some hospitals to fit them for the profession of sick nursing, then no doubt they will see how reasonable it is on the part of the authorities to ask them to pay a little to defray the cost of their training.

Our great drawback in this hospital is want of funds. Since the commencement of the South African Campaign it is exceedingly difficult to get subscriptions to carry on the hospital. The directors are about to make an appeal to the public for help. It is hoped money will come in to help us to do more work this year.

A conversazione in connection with the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association will be held in July in Sydney. The Mayor has given the Town Hall for the occasion. It is hoped to inaugurate the Benevolent Fund then, which we are anxious to see started. The association now consists of 370 members, and weekly nurses are joining.

I wish you every success in your international scheme.

### FROM PUERTO PRINCIPI, CUBA.

Mrs. Quintard, who won so many hearts at the Woman's Congress last year, writes us that she has resigned her position as Superintendent of Nurses at St. Luke's Hospital, New York, and her letter is dated General Hospital, Puerto Principi, Cuba. She writes:—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the notice of the meeting of the Provisional Committee of the International Council of Nurses, to be held in London July 5th. I shall be most interested to hear the result of

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