

foreshadowed by the removal of the great educational foundations of Charterhouse and Christ's Hospital, and, much as we should regret to see the demolition of St. Bartholomew's, for we have a thousand happy memories connected with it, we must say that, having regard to all the issues involved, we cannot but think the Governors would be wise to consider carefully the question of removal before beginning to build.

We have only to consider the perfection of the structural arrangements of some of the American hospitals, to realise the requirements of a modern hospital. There should be space for the classification of cases in separate blocks for their better treatment, and for purposes of medical and nursing education.

Then, the administrative officers and the nursing and domestic staffs must have suitable quarters provided, operating theatres on the newest principles should be easily accessible from the surgical wards, and the various departments, such as the pathological museums and laboratories, the medical library, &c., have to be provided for. We fear it must be owned that St. Bartholomew's has not space to expand sufficiently, even to meet present requirements, and this being so we cannot but see the force of the plea for migrating to a larger site. But the argument that because it has never appealed for public support it never should do so is both specious and unsound. In our opinion there is no hospital in the United Kingdom which has a stronger claim on public support. Many hospital committees, we are aware, work on the principle that a large debt stimulates public generosity, and without hesitation incur financial responsibilities which they are not able to meet. The authorities of St. Bartholomew's have thought otherwise—by wise investment of their funds, by careful administration of their resources, they have lived upon their income, and rendered untold and world-wide service to the community. In the present crisis we think that whether the hospital remains where it is, or moves further afield, it would be a graceful act on the part of the financiers of the City of London if they provided the Governors with the £300,000 asked for, as a recognition of its magnificent work and of the sound financial administration which has been characteristic of the hospital for over seven centuries.

A SPECIAL APPEAL.

In regard to the special appeal about to be made by the Governing Body of St. Bartholomew's Hospital for funds for the erection of new buildings, the Lord Mayor has convened a meeting of the Appeal Committee, of which he is chairman, for Monday, the 19th inst., to consider the preliminary steps to be taken in furtherance of the project.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Executive of the National Temperance League has passed a resolution expressing its profound regret at the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was for eighteen years president of the League.

Lord Strathcona has consented to preside at a festival dinner in aid of the funds of University College Hospital on Wednesday, March 18th, at the Hôtel Métropole.

Princess Louise (Duchess of Argyll) on the 16th opens a children's ward recently added to the Royal Victoria Hospital at Bournemouth, which was erected in 1887 as a town's memorial of the Jubilee of the late Queen's accession to the Throne.

During the past year the Royal Humane Society investigated 650 cases of gallantry. The rewards comprised sixteen silver and 202 bronze medals, 455 testimonials, thirty-two certificates, and £83 in money.

As a result, 787 persons received recognition for saving 708 lives and attempting to save ninety-two others.

The modern hospital manager does not apparently object to "bricks without straw," to judge from an appeal from the Improvements Fund Committee of Charing Cross Hospital. It is estimated that about £6,000 will be required for bricks alone in carrying out the extensions, so a neat little pamphlet has been issued which contains twenty perforated receipts, one of which is given to every person who subscribes a shilling, and the proceeds of this collection will be devoted entirely to the purchase of bricks.

A new asylum for aged and infirm persons of unsound mind has just been completed on Tooting Bec Common by the Metropolitan Asylums Board at a cost of £250,000. It will accommodate 750 patients, and will probably be opened next month.

The Advisory Committee of the King's Consumption Sanatorium have appointed Mr. H. Percy Adams, F.R.I.B.A., as their architect for His Majesty's sanatorium.

Dr. Shirley Murphy's annual summary of the "medical condition" of the County of London again refers to the marked fall in the number of diphtheria cases among children when the London Board schools break up for the holidays. There is an instant decrease during the four weeks' holiday, followed by a jump upward above the normal when the schools meet again. In the case of children between the ages of three and thirteen there is a decrease of 20 per cent. in diphtheria cases over the four weeks' holiday period, and of nearly 9 per cent. among children over thirteen. In the month after they come back there is an increase of 55·8 per cent. of cases in children between three and thirteen, and an increase of 37·4 per cent.

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