

Hospital open. I hope it will fulfill all the good that the founders and promoters hope."

A pretty ceremony then took place in the presentation of purses by fifteen children, after which a vote of thanks was proposed to the Duchess by Dr. Ralph Vincent, seconded by the Mayor of Westminster.

#### AN IMPORTANT EVENT.

Dr. Vincent said in the course of his remarks that, owing to the splendid generosity of Mr. Robert Mond nothing had been spared, from the basement to the top of the building, to make it efficient, at the same time, simplicity had not been lost sight of. He believed the foundation of the hospital was an important event in the history of the country. Nothing was so important to the national life as the study of the problems connected with the rearing of healthy children. For the opportunities of such study they were indebted to Mr. Mond.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Duchess inspected the Hospital, and the guests proceeded to the Lecture Room and Board Room, where tea was served.

#### A WORTHY MEMORIAL.

The Lecture Room is an altogether charming place. In it is placed a medallion portrait of the late Mrs. Robert Mond, who took so keen an interest in the temporary hospital at Hampstead, to whom the present hospital is a fitting memorial. The room, with its richly carved ceiling and oak panelled walls also embellished with beautiful carving, done by French workmen specially brought over for the purpose, must be the pride and joy of all connected with the hospital. It also stamps the hospital as a teaching centre—a place, that is to say, for the diffusion of the knowledge gained within its walls. Nursing has in the past suffered much from the fact that it has been regarded rather as a technical occupation, and it can never attain the perfection and the usefulness of which it is capable until it is recognised as an art founded on scientific principles, and that these principles must be taught to and followed by those who practise that art.

The wards are charming, the more so on account of their simplicity, and the Matron, Miss Chippendall, and the Sisters are greatly to be congratulated on their arrangement. In the large wards containing twenty-five cots there is no needless furniture. The little cots with their white curtains and pretty blue or pink quilts, are the great centre of interest. The babies seem as happy as it is possible for babies to be, and in the centre of the ward is a large table fitted with drawers

and cupboards underneath. In this also there are pigeon holes, numbered to match the cots, allotted to each child. The drawers are stocked with bibs, towels, and the cosiest of white knitted kickers reaching up to the thighs with feet like stockings, in which a child can kick to his heart's content, and the linen cupboards must be the joy and pride of the Sister's heart, so well-stocked are they. "No stint in anything" has been the plan in regard to the linen as to all else.

#### THE METHOD OF FEEDING.

Most interesting is the method adopted in regard to the feeding of these infants, a point of course of supreme importance. Over each cot hangs the board on which the diet is prescribed. How much milk, how often to be taken, and the exact proportions of fat, lactose, albuminoids, lime, etc. These prescriptions are then sent to the Walker Gordon farm at Sudbury carefully prepared, and the quantity for a feed placed in a sealed bottle. There is a wooden box provided for each child's daily supply, and the bottles are sent up in this, with ice in the centre; then when a feed is due the milk is warmed and the seal removed, a teat applied, and the feed given. The time when given, when finished, and the amount taken is duly noted on the chart. At the farm the greatest care is taken to secure the purity of the milk, the udders of the cows are washed the milking done through cotton wool, and the hands of the milkers are scrupulously clean. The milk is quickly lowered to and kept at a temperature of 40 degs., and in the modifying room the diets are prepared from the cream, whey, etc., in exact proportions.

In a short time a laboratory for the preparation of milk mixtures will be added to the hospital, and then the nurses will take their turn in the laboratory as part of their training. Besides the diet sheet a weight chart, and a board for notes of the case hang over each infant's cot. Each one is weighed three times a week.

The nurses' rooms are dainty and charming, with fumed oak furniture and pretty green and white quilts, and no one could wish for a prettier sitting room.

The future of this hospital, and its influence on the problems of child life, will be watched with the greatest interest.

A trained nurse recently overheard the following amenities from the area:—

Errand boy delivering comestibles to maid:

"'Ave them in yer pinny, Miss?"

Maid emphatically:

"No, I won't, it's a clean un."

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