

Steps are being taken for reconstructing and enlarging the Ulster Hospital for Women and Children, Belfast, at an estimated outlay of £10,000. The draft plans for the minimum requirements of the medical staff show a three-storey elevation with a single storey for the out-patients' department and a maternity ward.

It is said that the first hospital ever built in America was erected by the Spaniard Cortez in the city of Mexico in 1524. It was endowed out of the revenues obtained from the properties conferred on him by the Spanish Crown for his services in the conquest of Mexico. The endowment was so arranged that it still exists and is paid at the present day. A supervisor is named by the lineal descendant of Cortez at present. In this hospital women occupied positions as nurses and physicians, and in their care were all cases and obstetrics, and women's diseases.

The Royal Sanitary Institute.

CONGRESS AND HEALTH EXHIBITION AT BRIGHTON.

The Twenty-fifth Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute was opened in the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Monday last, and meetings and excursions will be held throughout the week.

The opening of the important Health Exhibition in the Dome and Corn Exchange was performed by the Mayor.

At the Conferences on Hygiene of Childhood and that of Women on Hygiene several questions of special interest to nurses will be discussed.

Amongst the exhibitors many firms well known to, and patronised by, nurses were well to the fore.

The Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals showed humane instruments for use in slaughter-houses and knacker yards, together with pamphlets and plans with reference to the superiority of the public abattoir to private slaughter-houses.

Newton, Chambers, and Co., Ltd.—Here the well-known Izal preparations were on view. Izal Disinfectant Fluid, powder, soaps, medical, and hotel preparations.

Stall 35.—The Executors of the late William Sharratt exhibited their Formalide sprayer, lamps, fumigator, and Tablets, "Karsene," "Rozene," and Carbolic Disinfectants.

Southall Bros. and Barclay, Ltd. (Stall 56) contained specimens of many of their invaluable sanitary towels. Originally patented by S. B. & B. in 1880, since improved, and now the most perfect towel on the market. Compressed towels, full-sized towels reduced by pressure, packed in tiny boxes. Night tidy, for night use; "Shieldette," containers for used towels, protective apron, camisole (breast support for the nursing period), infants' knepkenettes, nursing aprons (waterproof, flannel, and combined), sanitary sheets of various sizes for accouchment, obstetric binders, unstretchable (stout and medium) flannel, shaped with buckles for fastening; mackintosh sheets, free from odour, and other practical appliances.

The Hull Sanatorium Scandal.

The Hull Sanitary Committee have once again proved that they have no right to be trusted with the care of the sick, or responsible for the safety of innocent girls as nurses, and that it is high time the citizens of Hull took active measures to clear out the Augean stable known as the Hull Sanatorium.

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On Saturday last an important meeting of the Hull Sanitary Committee was held to consider the report of the Sub-Committee charged with the investigation of the administration of the Hull Sanatorium. The inquiry was rendered necessary by the proceedings in the Manchester Police Court against Dr. Alfred G. P. Thomson, who was Medical Superintendent of the institution, and against whom an affiliation order was obtained by Nurse Shuttleworth.

Alderman Askew presided. A letter was read from Dr. Thompson tendering his resignation, and on his motion the resignation was accepted.

The report of the Sub-committee stated that Miss Butler, the Deputy Medical Officer, had been appointed to take charge of the Sanatorium for three months, and then proceeded to recommend that the Matron, Miss Duffy, who was relieved of her duties pending the inquiry, should now be asked to resume duty.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said they had now to see how far the Matron was concerned in the allegations made against the resident medical superintendent. Very serious allegations had been made as to the Matron's connection with the painful business which necessitated an inquiry, and it was stated that among other things she had authorised some kind of an agreement with reference to the custody of an expected child of Nurse Shuttleworth. The document which was alleged to have been drawn up, however, had never been produced, and the Matron herself repudiated altogether such an agreement. He considered that the Matron ought to be believed, and there was not sufficient ground to justify the Committee in calling upon her to resign. He had received a petition from nurses at the Sanatorium which he considered it unwise for the nurses to have sent. The gist of the petition was that in their opinion Nurse Shuttleworth should not be called before the Sub-Committee.

Mr. Raine seconded the adoption of the report, and observed that he did not think there was sufficient proof of the suggested complicity between Miss Duffy and Dr. Thomson.

Dr. Robinson, a member of the Council, followed with a speech containing some startling statements. He said he took a serious view of the whole question. For years there had been lax administration at the Hull Corporation Hospitals. When the Matron took up duty at the Hull Sanatorium there were five single women—nurses and domestics—pregnant there, and not a word of this was reported to the Chairman of the Hospital Sub-Committee. In the administration in many departments of the Corporation there was laxity. Another girl who

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