

The Hospital World.

THE PARK HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.

The Park Hospital for Children, Hither Green, was formerly inaugurated on Saturday afternoon, November 19th, by the President of the Local Government Board. Mr. Burns arrived soon after 2.30, and was received by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Clerk to the Metropolitan Asylums Board, the Medical Superintendent, and Miss S. A. Villiers, Matron of the Hospital, and escorted to one of the wards, where about 200 people had assembled to meet him.

Mr. Walter Dennis, Chairman of the Board, explained that for the last 13 years the Park Hospital had rendered good service to London by the treatment of large numbers of infectious patients, and that now it had been decided to devote it to the care of sick and debilitated children.

Mr. Burns, in the course of an interesting and sympathetic address, gave some of his reasons for wishing to devote more attention to the children, and spoke of the high mortality still prevalent among the children of the poorer classes, especially those under 5 years of age. He enumerated some of the causes for this, such as drink, overcrowding, etc., and said he hoped very soon, with the aid of the two Hospitals placed at his disposal by the Metropolitan Asylums Board, to remove all the children from the overcrowded infirmaries and workhouses, where they were unable to receive all the advantages of fresh air and sunshine which he wished to give them.

Mr. Walden, J.P., Chairman of the Children's Committee, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Burns, which was seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Miss I. M. Baker. The five wards occupied by the small patients were then visited, and afterwards tea was served in two of the wards, which had been decorated with flowers and plants, and presented a gay appearance, the Sisters and nurses waiting on the guests.

The Band of the Training Ship *Eamouth* played selections of music, and a guard of honour was also provided by these smart, robust-looking boys.

Among those present were Sir Robert Hensley, Sir Arthur Downes, Mr. Davey, C.B., a large number of the Managers of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, Medical Superintendents of various infirmaries, Guardians, and Clerks to Guardians, and many ladies, who expressed their great interest in the new Children's Hospital.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Lady Juliet Duff, wife of the new Chairman and President of the Appeal Committee of Charing Cross Hospital, is issuing an urgent appeal for the sum of £100,000 to free the hospital from debt and to enable the wards now closed to be reopened. She points out that a serious aspect of the present insufficient accommodation is that the hospital, from its situation, is pre-eminently an accident hospital, and casualties that ought to be taken in are frequently sent on to other hospitals or infirmaries because all the beds are full. Also that the adjacent thoroughfares are highways of people from all over the world and that the hospital is called upon to perform not merely a local, but a universal service.

Lady Wantage has promised £1,000, and Messrs. N. M. Rothschild, amongst other generous donors, have sent her £300. Much has been done at Charing Cross of late years to bring it up-to-date in every way, and the wards, the walls of which are faced with beautiful schemes of tiles, are as comfortable as they are harmonious in decoration. We hope Charing Cross may get a good bit of that £100,000, and its closed wards, which are so urgently needed, be opened at no distant date.

By direction of Prince Alexander of Teck, Mr. Reginald Lucas has written a short memoir of Prince Francis of Teck, setting forth the services which he rendered to the Middlesex Hospital.

Lord Shaftesbury's appeal for the Queen's Hospital for Children at Hackney is receiving support. The more the better. London cannot afford empty beds in its hospitals for children at any time.

NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

The Nurses' Missionary League Sale of Work was held on Saturday, November 19th, at 52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W. A good supply of articles, both fancy work, children's clothes, and dainty woollen goods, had been received from members of the League, and made a pretty display. A good many nurses and other friends attended during the day, and parcels of goods which were left over are being sent to members in various places who were unable to be present. The proceeds are to go towards the funds of the League, and also towards the support of a cot in the Mukden Hospital.

NURSES' SOCIAL UNION.

A Branch has been formed for Staffordshire, with the Countess of Harrowby as President, and Miss Duke, Haughton, Stafford, as County Organiser. There are already about forty members.

Mr. L. Dick will speak at a meeting in connection with it on Monday next at the County Council Buildings, Stafford, at 2.30 p.m., on "The National Pension Fund for Nurses." Dr. G. Reid, the Medical Officer for Health, will preside. An entertainment will follow, to which nurses are invited, whether members of the N.S.U. or not.

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