

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

THE CENTRAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.

On Tuesday last H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany who laid the foundation stone of the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital, Judd Street, St. Pancras, W.C. just two years ago, opened the new building, and received purses towards the funds.

The hospital, until recently has been situated in the Gray's Inn Road, but in its new position is off the direct line of traffic while easily approached from the Euston Road, opposite St. Pancras Station.

The authorities of the hospital have always endeavoured to live within their income, and the building has been completed without any debt being incurred, but the sum of £3,000 is required to equip the wards, and, naturally, a new and modern hospital, with much greater space, will require a larger indoor staff, and expenses in other directions will be greatly increased. Indeed the only criticism we have to make is that the arrangement of the hospital will need a large amount of labour to keep the floors, corridors, annexes and walls clean and in order.

The exterior of the building is plain, but no pains have been spared to make it complete and convenient. When the whole is opened for patients there will be forty beds, one floor for men, and one for women. At present only twenty-four beds are available, in two wards on one floor, with small wards for septic cases. The service kitchens are well arranged with a glass partition dividing the part used for the service of food, and that devoted to the ordinary kitchen duties. The operating theatre and its annexes are very complete, and by an ingenious arrangement the greater part of the operating table can, if necessary, be slipped into a recess so that the full light from the main window can be thrown directly on the part operated upon. The outpatient department, which is already at work has its own convenient theatre. The department was closed in the Gray's Inn Road on a Saturday, and opened in the new building the following Monday morning a record of which the Matron Miss A. Marsden is justly proud.

The Nursing Staff consists of two Sisters and four probationers, who have most comfortable quarters. The Secretary Mr. H. R. S. Druce will gladly receive donations and subscriptions to the funds. The Board Room still requires furnishing, and much of the furniture from the old hospital is still in use.

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

It was announced at the general meeting of Governors of the Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, Westminster, that arrangements are in progress for the building of additional premises, including an out-patient department, a new research laboratory, and a nurses' home.

Sir Alfred Pearce Gould has given £1,000 to the Middlesex Hospital, with a request that the money should be spent on the purchase of radium to be used for the treatment of patients, especially those suffering from malignant disease.

Lady Islington spoke with much kindness and common sense, on Tuesday in last week, when at 29, Portman Square, she pleaded for funds for a new nurses' Home in connection with the Great Northern Central Hospital. She asked for £12,000, and showed how necessary it was for health's sake that nurses should be hygienically housed. She mentioned having opened a splendid new home for nurses in Auckland while in New Zealand, and wished this could be repeated in the case of the Great Northern which alleviates so much suffering in the north of London.

Dr. Lockyer, of the staff of the hospital, in describing the present accommodation, mentioned that there were but two single bedrooms, for which there was enormous competition, and these were so small that the walls could be touched on both sides when the arms were stretched out. The other rooms, accommodating two nurses each, were really built as single rooms, and there is but one bathroom. The nurses' quarters were described by the matron as a "rabbit warren," and are situated in a "cottage," separated inconveniently from the other parts of the building.

The new building, when erected, will accommodate a hundred nurses, instead of the sixty for whom the present building hardly suffices. As a result of the meeting £200 was promised. Miss Garratt has offered a donation of £200 if eight other donors of £100 each will come forward.

The important decision to amalgamate has been taken by the governors of St. George's and Westminster Hospitals, Mr. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., is to acquire the site of St. George's for the probable sum of £460,000, and a new hospital containing 500 beds will be erected, leaving some £850,000 as an endowment fund. Let us hope that a building worthy of the unique site at Hyde Park Corner will be erected.

The newly-established Nurses' Home in connection with the Kidderminster Infirmary was opened recently by Mrs. Arthur Jones, of Ombersley, in the unavoidable absence of the Mayoress of Kidderminster. A spacious building has been leased, and over £600 has been spent in adapting

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