

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The Minister of Health has given a written reply to a question by Mr. J. C. Gould as to whether his attention has been drawn to the articles in the Press in reference to the cure of lunacy by vaccine injections; whether he is aware of the allegations that many potentially healthy-minded persons are needlessly confined in asylums because of the lack of proper curative treatment; and whether he will initiate an investigation into the lunacy laws and asylum administration with the object of making such treatment available to the mentally afflicted confined in asylums.

The Minister states: "The answer to the first two parts of the question is in the affirmative. There is no obstacle to the use of vaccines in any case in which that form of treatment is considered suitable by the medical authorities of the asylum. I may add that I have under consideration the question of possible reforms in lunacy administration and treatment."

The Voluntary Hospitals Commission continue to receive numerous applications from individual hospitals, and to avoid misunderstanding they are anxious to make it known that grants will only be made on the recommendation in London of King Edward's Fund, or in the provinces of the local Voluntary Hospitals Committees. Steps are now being taken in co-operation with the county and county borough councils to establish these local committees, and any inquiry as to whether a committee has already been appointed for a particular area should be addressed to the clerk to the county council. Hospitals are asked to defer their applications until the local Hospital Committee has been appointed; and in no case should any hospital apply direct to the Commission.

The Tyrone County Hospital, Omagh, is well known for the good work done there, and we regret to learn that its financial position is so serious that if more support is not forthcoming it may have to close down beds. In a statement recently placed before the Committee, the Rev. H. W. Morrow, D.D., said there had been 100 more patients this year than last year, and every operation case of any consequence was sent there. During the past six months there had been forty cases of appendicitis, and these were nearly all acute cases. If the hospital did not receive better financial support they would have to close up two-thirds of the beds, and admit only cases of an urgent surgical character.

Dr. Thompson said the only alternative to receiving a larger grant from the County Council was to shut up the hospital, as they could not be expected to continue running it when it was so heavily in debt. If it were closed down, the people would soon discover its value. The annual contribution of £1,400 by the Council had been fixed by the old Irish Parliament in 1763, and to have

this sum altered now the Northern Parliament would have to be approached.

It was decided to instruct the committee's solicitor to appear before the County Council and appeal for an extra grant, as the committee felt they could not take the responsibility of keeping the hospital open in its present embarrassed financial position.

LECTURES TO NURSES.

BEDFORD COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON), REGENT'S PARK, N.W.1.

SESSION 1921-22.

Courses of Lectures on Social and Industrial Subjects, intended for trained Nurses engaged in work during the day, will be given on Mondays at 7 p.m., beginning Monday, October 3rd, 1921.

MICHAELMAS TERM, 1921.

Ten lectures on "Social Theory," by Mrs. Reid, Director of Social Studies, beginning Monday, October 3rd.

The Nature of Society; Man, a Social Being Community, a Social Group. Organisation within the Group; the Division of Labour Leading to Diversity and also to Social Coherence. Modes and Motives of Association. Social Institutions; the structure of Society; the Family; Educational Institutions; the State. The State and the Family. The State as Educator. Forms of Government; Democracy; the Democratic Ideals—Liberty, Equality, Fraternity. How Far They are Realised. Democracy and Representative Government.

LENT TERM, 1922.

Ten Lectures on "Industrial Conditions," by Mrs. Williams, B.A., beginning Monday, January 23rd, 1922.

The Evolution of the Modern Industrial System and its Main Characteristics—Industrial Unrest—Strikes and Arbitration—Trades Unionism—Women in Industry—Whitley Councils and Trade Boards—Unemployment.

Fee for each Course, 15s., to be paid before the first lecture of the Course to the Secretary, Bedford College.

The College is five minutes' walk from Baker Street Station, entrance from York Gate (Marylebone Road).

HER FIRST EMERGENCY.

The new probationer was carrying a glass of water to a patient, when the latter gasped:

"Oh, I'm going to faint!"

Very excited at this first emergency, the nurse replied:

"Please wait just a minute till I call the head nurse!"—*The Modern Hospital*.

What the head nurse said when she arrived on the scene is unrecorded.

The marriage is reported at Monroe, U.S.A., of Dr. Harding, father of President Harding, to Miss Severns, a trained nurse.

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