

PRESS OPINIONS ON THE G.N.C.

We are pleased to note that several papers are admitting the truth *re* the G.N.C. scandal to appear. *Time and Tide*, the *Manchester Guardian* and the *Yorkshire Post* are giving publicity to this matter, so important to the community. Miss Isabel Macdonald's admirable reply in the latter paper to the usual misleading article by "A Nursing Expert" will, we hope, help the Nursing Profession and the public to realise the manner in which the expert nurses' representatives are being treated by the lay, medical, and Matron majority of the Council—supported by the Ministry of Health.

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The Lady Mayoress, on Tuesday, April 25th, at 11 a.m., will perform an interesting ceremony at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, E.C., in connection with the demolition of the old houses in Little Britain, preparatory to the erection of the First Wing of Queen Mary's Home for St. Bartholomew's Nurses.

The Ministry of Health has had under consideration the number of patients in mental hospitals and epileptic colonies who have received injuries by falling, and has asked the Metropolitan Asylums Board to give the matter its consideration, as the number is considerable and appears to be increasing. In particular, the Ministry has asked whether the floors of the institutions are being over-polished.

The Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary benefits to the extent of £60,000 by the will of the late Mr. William Ward, of "The Kennels," Blackburn, a well-known brewer.

The New South Wales Labour Government is about to introduce legislation to abolish what is described as "the humiliating method of cadging money from the public by the medium of 'charity days' for the upkeep of the hospitals."

A scheme of compulsory contributions is to be inaugurated, under which every individual will be taxed according to his means.

It is estimated that a penny a week from everybody would be enough to maintain the hospitals adequately. Then those who need medical skill and nursing in a hospital will not feel that they are objects of charity, but subscribers who are entitled to the benefits they receive.

Sooner or later we shall either maintain our hospitals by a direct tax—or by a system of compulsory insurance, which amounts to the same thing. As patients now pay towards their expenses in hospitals, the claim that these institutions are voluntary no longer stands. But hospital managers in this country are clinging tenaciously to unrestricted power—and they can't have it both ways.

The rush on the part of the feminine population of London to view Princess Mary's wedding presents has so far resulted in a profit of upwards of £10,000.

She proposes to devote the whole of this sum to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, with a special request that as much as possible shall be devoted to those hospitals dealing more particularly with women and children.

At the 149th anniversary meeting of the Governors and subscribers of the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, held in the "Edward Wood" Recreation Room of the Nurses' Home recently, when Mr. T. Fielding Johnson, J.P. (Chairman of the Board) presided, very high praise was expressed of the work done by the institution, by the Mayor, the High Sheriff (Mr. A. E. Hawley), the Bishop of Peterborough, and others. The principal points of interest were the generous gift of £20,000 from the Saturday Hospital Society; the continuation of the extensions, in spite of the financial difficulty because, as the Chairman put it, they were not running a business, and had to consider the health of the people more than the state of the balance-sheet; the decision to vote to each of the thirteen members of the Hon. Staff £50 per annum for out-of-pocket expenses, and they will also give a percentage of certain sources of income for particular cases. Mr. Fielding Johnson was elected to the vacant vice-presidency, in recognition of his great services to the institution. Lastly, the Mayoress handed to the chairman a cheque for £571 given by the inhabitants of Leicester towards the endowment of a bed in commemoration of Princess Mary's wedding day, which, with Her Royal Highnesses' consent, is to be called by her name.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Women's Hospital, Rotten Row, Glasgow.—Miss Alice Frisby has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Ecclesall Infirmary, and has been nurse at the Lock Hospital (now the Women's Hospital), Glasgow; Theatre and Ward Sister at the Jubilee Hospital, Port Glasgow; Sister of the Venereal Wards at the Firvale Infirmary, Sheffield; and Assistant Matron at the Glasgow Lock Hospital.

City Mental Hospital, Humberstone, Leicester.—Miss Mary Scott Seymour has been appointed Matron. She was trained at Bethlem Royal Hospital, at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, and at the East End Mother's Home, Commercial Road, E. She has held the position of Sister at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington; and of Night Superintendent and Home Sister at the West London Hospital, Hammersmith. She is a Certified Midwife.

THEATRE SISTER.

St. Mary (Islington) Infirmary, Highgate.—Miss Ethel T. Smith has been appointed Theatre Sister. She was trained at the New Infirmary, Bishop Auckland, and the Firvale Hospital, Sheffield. She did war nursing at home and abroad, and has recently had experience of private nursing.

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