

In addition to this charge relating to the main duties of the beadles there exist the more detailed orders for the beadles, which are of equal interest. They are:—

"First, you shall every day, two and two together, walk through your wards appointed with your staffs in your hands; and all such vagrant and idle persons as you shall find in your walks or in any place abroad, you shall apprehend and convey to the Bridewell. And if you chance to be resisted by way of the said vagrants and evil persons you shall call for aid to every constable next adjoining to assist you. And if he refuse to do so, to take his name and go to the Lord Mayor and deliver unto him the disobedience of the said constable. And if the Lord Mayor do not presently cause such constable to be punished, then at the next Court of Aldermen you to attend and make your complaint, whereby the law may be executed accordingly.

"Item, if any of your citizens die within your walks you are to give your attendance at the houses of them so deceased and to see that no rogues or idle persons resort thither to trouble the street. And if anything be given you of benevolence for your travail to take it thankfully without calling aught of duty. And if you be not of yourselves able to clear the streets of such; then you shall call to your aid such beadles whose walks are next adjoining to aid and assist you therein. And you shall distribute to them part of such money as shall be given unto you. And you shall not intrude yourselves to none other burials out of your wards or walks but unto such, as you shall be called by your fellow beadles.

"Item, one of you every Sunday with the rest of the beadles of the other houses shall give your attendance at Paul's Cross at the sermon time; to visit all the streets and lanes adjoining and there to apprehend all such vagrant and idle persons as shall be there found by you, and to carry them as well men as women and children to Bridewell; whereby there may be order taken according to the law prescribed.

"And if any of you shall be found negligent in performing these orders above said or any other orders hereafter made and devised, upon every fault found your staffs shall be taken from you and to be secluded for evermore for serving in those rooms. Whereof assure yourselves without any favour or otherwise to be punished according to the Governors' discretion."

It is clear, therefore, that the beadles of the Hospital were persons of importance in the City, that they had ample authority to maintain order, apprehend rogues and compel the sick who were a menace to public health to come to the Hospital for treatment. They are now reduced to two, and are to be clearly distinguished from the "box carriers" who used to attend the surgeon as he went his rounds in the wards, one being attached to each. The box carrier derived his name from the heavy brass-bound box of instruments which he carried when minor operations in the wards were performed on the spur of the moment without

an anæsthetic. He was at once a terror to the dresser and a help to the house-surgeon. His heavy step slowly ascending the stairs in the middle of the night was a warning to the house-surgeon of a loud knock on his bedroom door, followed by, "A case in the Surgery, Sir, but you needn't 'urry for it ain't hurgent," or else, "I think you'd better come quick for 'e seems pretty bad."—From *St. Bartholomew's Hospital Journal*.

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The Voluntary Hospitals Commission have resolved to allocate £225,000 (including amounts already voted) to London hospitals, and £275,000 to provincial and Scottish hospitals. The Commission have decided that unless exceptional circumstances can be shown, they will be unable to consider any claims in respect of 1921 deficits which are received later than November 30.

The Hygienic Committee of the League of Nations has decided to recommend, in principle, the sending of a Commission to the Far East to obtain information on the frequent outbreak of epidemic diseases, particularly those presenting international dangers.

Mr. A. Daniel Serena, J.P., of York Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W., made, amongst many others, the following interesting bequests.

Subject to legacies to his two sisters, his niece, godson, and cousin, and the payment of all duties, he left the residue (about £250,000) for division equally among the following hospitals:—

London, Charing Cross, King's College, Guy's, Middlesex, University College, Royal Free, St. Bartholomew's, St. George's, St. Thomas's, St. Mary's, Great Northern Central, Royal Hospital for Incurables, Poplar Hospital, Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Brompton Cancer Hospital, Chelsea Hospital for Women, Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Lock Hospital and Rescue Home, Harrow Road, and Italian Hospital, Queen's Square.

Also, £10,000 free of legacy duty to the London Hospital, and as a memento of his long association with Holloway Prison as Visiting Justice he left £10 to each person who, at his death, shall be either governor, doctor, matron, warder, or clerk at the prison, and who has filled any of these positions during his period as a visiting justice.

The Rev. G. B. Cronshaw, treasurer, on presenting the auditor's report at the quarterly court of Governors of the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, said that the main increase was in salaries and wages. That was the first time they had felt such a heavy increase of the work of the nursing staff, and they were being better paid now in order to attract the kind of girl required for the work. Before the war, nurses could be recruited fairly easily, but since that time they had experienced great difficulty in obtaining them because they found new kinds of work to do which were lighter than nurs-

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