

## HOSPITAL WORLD.

In view of the international character of the munificent gift of the Rockefeller Foundation of £1,200,000, and the importance of its object—namely, to improve medical education in the capital of the Empire—the King and Queen have consented to lay the foundation-stones of the new University College Hospital buildings at a date to be fixed at the end of May. The foundation-stone of the new Obstetric Hospital will be laid by the King and that of the new Nurses' Home by the Queen.

There appears to be some misapprehension in the minds of the public that the charitable side of the hospital will benefit by this gift, but so far from this being the case, an increased burden of £20,000 per annum will be imposed on the hospital finances for the upkeep of the new buildings and the maintenance of the additional beds required for teaching purposes.

Out of this magnificent sum of money let us hope a good slice will be earmarked for nursing education. Medicine cannot progress very far without the aid of its practical handmaid, Nursing.

The Princess Royal, with the Princess Maud, opened the Pound Day proceedings at the Belgrave Hospital for Children, Clapham-Road, S.W., on Wednesday, the 14th inst., when it was announced that the sum of £6,000 had been allotted to the building fund from the estate of the late Mr. W. Shepherd for the erection of the south wing. The sum of £1,160 was realised.

The Queen visited the Hostel of St. Luke, 14, Fitzroy Square, the very popular medical and surgical nursing home for the clergy, last week and opened an extension, by which further accommodation is secured. Her Majesty was received by the Bishop of London, who gave a brief description of the work of the Hostel, which he described as splendid. He had been chaplain for twenty-two years and knew that it had saved the lives and cured the diseases of many clergy and their families. They had a perfect medical and nursing staff, but in addition there was something about the place—a Christian atmosphere—that helped the work of healing.

The Queen declared the extension open, and the Matron (Miss Philipps), the nursing and medical staffs, and representatives of the Executive Committee and the Ladies' Guild were presented to her by the Bishop. The Queen then went over the Hostel, spoke to the patients, and saw the new wards (which now accommodate thirty patients), expressing her approval of their cheerful aspect. The enlargement provides greater space for the chapel (where a further dedication service took place), and an enlargement of the roof-garden.

The Voluntary Hospitals' Commission have now dealt with all the applications for grants in respect of 1921, except for a limited number of areas in Scotland in which Local Voluntary Hospital Com-

mittees were late in being established. The total deficits reported to the Commission amounted to £295,170 for London, £425,727 for the rest of England and Wales, and £15,340 for Scotland. The total deficits reported for the whole of Great Britain amounted to £736,237, as compared with the estimate of £1,000,000 by Lord Cave's Committee on which the Government grant of £500,000 was based.

Fourteen London hospitals have received sums varying from £50,000 to £1,000 as a result of the distribution by the executors of a portion of the estate of the late Mr. William Shepherd. The largest sum, £35,000 goes to Guy's Hospital, £25,000 to Bolingbroke Hospital, £20,000 to St. Thomas's, and £6,000 to the Belgrave Hospital for Children.

Saving life by 'plane has evidently come to stay in Australia, where "succour for the out-back" depends on time:—

The story of Pilot W. B. Cochrane's race against time for the life of a sick settler in the interior of West Australia is by no means an isolated one of a commercial aeroplane taking up the rôle of a flying ambulance.

Many thrilling stories of succour rendered by aeroplanes in flood, fire and sickness, have filtered through, from time to time, to the Civil Aviation authorities at Victoria Barracks, from the aerial mail services which cover the far north-west of West Australia, the remote parts of Queensland, and the New South Wales border.

In February, last year, Pilot C. K. Kingsford-Smith, of the West Australian mail service, carried Dr. Trethowan from Perth to Carnarvon—574 miles—to perform an urgent operation on a girl. The doctor performed the operation successfully, and returned to Perth the same day. The outward flight was covered in a little over six hours.

Another life and death flight was performed by Flight-Lieutenant Hepburn, of the same service. In answer to a telephone message, he flew against time from Port Headland to the De Grey station on the De Grey River, and returned with a man who had had his arm blown off by a charge of gelignite. The airman's promptness was instrumental in saving the man's life.

During the heavy flood in the Mungindi district in northern New South Wales, a man named Carter and his son were cut off from help. Both were very ill, the boy's condition being serious. An aeroplane located them camping on a ridge. Taking the boy with him, the pilot flew sixty miles to the nearest hospital, and then returned with medicine supplies for the father.

From Queensland comes the story of the saving of the life of the infant daughter of the manager of a sheep station, thirty-two miles from Longreach. The child was seriously ill and needed hospital attention, but it was impossible to have her removed, owing to the fact that heavy rains had made the roads impassable. Lieutenant W. J. M'Ginness left by aeroplane for the station and brought in the child and her mother to Longreach Hospital, none the worse for their fast journey.

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