

THE KING AND QUEEN AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

Thursday, May 31st, 1923, will be a day long remembered in the annals of University College Hospital, for the King, accompanied by the Queen, paid a visit of over two hours' duration to the Hospital and College, for the purpose of laying the Foundation Stones of the New Obstetric Hospital and New Nurses' Home, and of the opening of the new Anatomy Building at University College—all of which has been made possible by the noble gift of the Rockefeller Foundation of New York, U.S.A., for Medical Education to University College Hospital Medical School, University of London, and to University College, Faculty of Medical Sciences.

The guests were requested to be in their seats by 2.15 p.m., and the arrival of Their Majesties was timed for 3.15 p.m.; but the time passed quickly enough, listening to the delightful music provided by the Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards, under the direction of Lieut. G. Miller, L.R.A.M., which, time after time, drew enthusiastic applause from the audience. Of interest also it was to watch the great marquee fill up with a distinguished audience, who were directed to their seats not only by men graduates, but also by a medical woman wearing the hood denoting her university rank.

Academic dress was *de rigueur*, and while that of the University of London predominated, the robes of many other Universities together with them gave a note of brilliant colour to a scene further picturesquely enlivened by the crimson carpetting, the gay bunting—the British Union Jack side by side with the American Stars and Stripes—the scarlet and gold uniforms of the Grenadier Guards, and the neat uniforms of the white-capped Sisters and Nurses.

The "sweet girl graduates with their golden hair" were not much in evidence, like silver in the days of Solomon they are "nothing accounted of" now, though, no doubt, there were many in the audience; but dignified women, whose scarlet and yellow robes denoted that they had attained to the coveted distinction of Doctor of Science in the University of London, were conducted to seats reserved for the more important guests, and carried their honours as to the manner born.

There arrived also early in the afternoon the Bishop of London, that good shepherd of his sheep, whose pastoral staff was borne before him by his Chaplain.

The King and Queen were escorted to their places—the while the Grenadier Guards played the National Anthem, which was followed by a hearty outburst of cheering—by the Duke of Bedford (President of the Hospital), Sir Ernest Hatch (Chairman of the General Committee), Mr. H. J. Waring (Vice-Chancellor of London University), and Viscount Chelmsford (Chairman of University College Committee).

When their Majesties reached the Dais, a number of presentations were made by Sir Ernest Hatch, Bart., K.B.E., Chairman of the General Committee, and by Mr. H. J. Waring, M.B., M.S., B.Sc., F.R.C.S., Vice-Chancellor of the University of London.

Amongst those presented by the Chairman of the Hospital was Miss Ruth E. Darbyshire, S.R.N., R.R.C., Matron of the Hospital, preceded by the late Matron, Miss Dora Finch, S.R.N., R.R.C. This ceremony concluded, a shower bouquet of roses was offered for the Queen's acceptance by the little daughter of Dr. Sidney Martin.

His Grace the Duke of Bedford, K.G., in a few words, welcomed the King and Queen on behalf of the Corporation of the Hospital and Medical School, referring to the presence of a representative of the American Embassy (Mr. Post Wheeler), and to the fact that the noble gift of the Rockefeller Foundation could not fail to promote cordiality of feeling between the two great English-speaking nations concerned. His Grace then called upon Sir Ernest Hatch, Bart., K.B.E., to read an Address to their Majesties.

The Address drew attention to the gift of the Rockefeller Trustees, and to the increased need of support for the hospital to meet the additional annual expense which would be incurred owing to the increase of beds.

Sir Ernest Hatch, having read the Address, delivered it to His Majesty, who handed it to the Right Hon. Neville Chamberlain, M.P., Minister of Health, Minister in Attendance, who handed to the King a reply.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

When the King rose to reply the whole audience rose also, but His Majesty graciously intimated that it should be seated.

The King spoke as follows:—

On behalf of the Queen and myself, I thank you for your loyal and dutiful address. It gives us much pleasure to come here to-day for the double purpose of laying the foundation stones of the new Obstetric Hospital and Nurses' Home of University College Hospital, and of opening the new anatomy building of University College.

We are all conscious of the significance of the occasion. This is no ordinary extension of a hospital or a college. The vast scale of the new development which we are inaugurating would be enough in itself to render it remarkable. There can be but few instances on record in which any foundation has received, like this college and medical school, £1,200,000 from a single benefactor in a single gift. And the magnificent generosity of the Rockefeller Trustees is the more impressive since it is bestowed by a citizen of the United States of America upon a college and hospital in London, and thus upon the people of Great Britain and the Empire.

It has been said that science knows no frontiers, and, indeed, the declared purpose of the trustees is "to promote the well-being of mankind throughout the world." That they should have selected the University of London to receive this princely endowment is not merely a high and well-deserved compliment, and the creation of yet another tie of sympathy and friendship which links us with the United States

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