

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The King has given a donation of £300 to the Victoria Hospital for Children, Tite Street, Chelsea, from the profits realized by the sale of the Gramophone Company's record of the King and Queen's Empire Day message. The donation comes at an opportune moment, as the hospital is in great need of funds.

The visit of Princess Mary, Viscountess Lascelles to Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Saturday, November 24th, gave great pleasure in the hospital world, for though her visit was primarily for the purpose of opening the new Maternity Hospital, she also paid a visit to the Fleming Memorial Hospital for Sick Children. This visit took place in the morning after the civic welcome, and the Princess delighted many of the little patients by speaking to them. Before leaving the hospital she signed the visitors' book, as did also Viscount Lascelles, and other members of the party which accompanied her.

Miss Middleton, Matron of the Hospital, was amongst those who had the honour of being presented to the Princess.

At the Maternity Hospital the Princess was received at the gate by Lord and Lady Armstrong, and the Matron, Miss A. J. Russell, who was accompanied by members of the nursing staff, presented for her acceptance a beautiful bouquet of orchids.

After the Duke of Northumberland had given a brief history of the hospital, founded 163 years ago by Act of Parliament, His Grace stated that it became absolutely necessary to secure a new hospital, and the Committee were fortunate in obtaining the consent of Princess Mary to inaugurate the new building. Her presence, and her name, would do more than many appeals to enlist the sympathy of the public.

The Princess performed the ceremony with the words, "I have much pleasure in declaring this hospital open," and then unveiled a portrait of Sir James Simpson (the discoverer of chloroform) presented to the hospital by Dr. Ranken Lyle, whose little daughter also presented to the Princess a silver porringer and spoon for Master Lascelles. Subsequently the Princess visited each ward, and her smiling presence made a red-letter day for the forty-eight mothers in the hospital.

In addition to the Matrons of the Maternity Hospital and the Fleming Memorial Hospital, Miss Cameron, Superintendent of Midwives, had the honour of presentation to the Princess during the day.

A return issued by Scotland Yard states that 158 persons were killed in street accidents which were recorded by the Metropolitan Police during July, August, and September. Of this total 140 deaths resulted from accidents in connection with mechanically propelled vehicles, and the remaining

18 from accidents in which horse-drawn and other non-mechanically propelled vehicles were concerned. Nine of the deaths in the latter class were due to accidents to pedal bicycles. Mechanically propelled trade and commercial vehicles were responsible for 45 deaths, private motor-cars for 37, motor-omnibuses for 31, motor-cycles for 17, tram-cars for eight, and cabs for two.

In the same period the total number of accidents to persons or property, including those in which deaths occurred, was 19,263 of which 13,798 occurred to mechanically propelled vehicles and 5,465 to horse-drawn or non-mechanically propelled vehicles.

When we note the pace many of the cars are permitted to travel, and the lack of control over bicycles, death and disaster appears inevitable. Three times quite recently lads on bicycles have swung round an island on the wrong side to save themselves being smashed up. But how about the other people—unfortunate pedestrians crossing the street?

Then there are the "limpets." These are female offenders—usually flappers. Often three, linked arm-in-arm, who barge into the public, with giggles, not only on the pavement, but in crossing the road. There should be a police rule that not more than two limpets may cling together. Most of them appear sufficiently insolent to take care of themselves.

NURSING AND CHILD WELFARE IN ORANGE FREE STATE.

During her stay in Kroonstad, Orange Free State, Miss J. B. N. Paterson was the guest of Miss J. E. Pritchard, at the Dorothy Centre of the King Edward VII Nurses.

Miss Pritchard was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London; did army nursing as Reserve Sister in South Africa, 1900-1907; then joined Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association as Nursing Sister; and later became Lady Superintendent. In 1914 she became Lady Superintendent of the King Edward VII Order of Nurses in South Africa.

The King Edward Nurses were organised as a South African Memorial to commemorate the life and aims of King Edward VII. The following are the general principles of the Order:—

(1) The Nursing organisation is intended to comprise two divisions; (a) European; and (b) Coloured and Native. The funds and organisation of the two divisions to be kept apart.

(2) The immediate object is to make good deficiencies now existing in South Africa. These deficiencies, apply to sick and injured persons who can pay for, but cannot obtain the services of nurses, to those who can in part, and to those who cannot pay at all.

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