

"Some important entities in our Hospital's organization," says the *St. Bartholomew's Hospital Journal*, "have a habit of hiding their light under a bushel. One such entity is that under the care of Miss Ball. What goes on in that unostentatious little office in the corner of the Surgery? A lady of St. Luke's arrives one morning with a large mammary abscess. She is told she must come into Hospital at once, and have it operated on. 'Oh, doctor, I can't! I've a baby of three months and three more little children, and no one to look after them. No, doctor, I can't come—can't you cure it with fomentations.' Hastily Miss Ball is consulted, and in an incredibly short space of time the baby and the little children are arranged for, and the mother, with a load off her mind, cheerfully agrees to be admitted.

"Another small boy has chorea—and a large number of brothers and sisters; his home is Guinness's Buildings. With a surprisingly small amount of form-signing he is carried off to the country—quite a change from Lever Street. The quiet efficiency with which this department is managed earns deep respect from all those who come in contact with it. Nowhere in the Hospital is work of such solid merit carried out with so little fuss."

At the last Quarterly Court of Governors of the London Hospital Lord Knutsford, who presided, reported that a great deal of interest attached to the return of the Matron from her visit to the hospitals in America. The visit was arranged by the Rockefeller Foundation, which had since still further increased their indebtedness by offering some valuable scholarships to members of their nursing staff. The Committee felt that it was important to establish a dietetic department. Many diseases, such as diabetes, epilepsy, gastric ulcer, and certain heart diseases, largely depended for treatment on diet, and this side of hospital life was much more studied in America than in England. The Rockefeller Foundation had offered a scholarship to one of their sisters to go to America and study the subject for nine months, and on her return she would be put in charge of the dietetic department at the London. This department would be close to the clinical laboratories, where researches were being carried out in the value of foods and the changes which occurred in various diseases.

The Rockefeller Institute had also offered a research scholarship to one of their sisters to study the methods of the treatment of children in Vienna, and on her return she would be placed in charge of the infant welfare department it was proposed to start, and this would be aided financially by the East End Tradesmen's Association. It was hoped to make this one of the most efficient departments in London of this important work for the health of future citizens.

The new Nurses' Home of the Royal Free Hospital, which was to have been opened by Her Majesty the Queen, was opened on Thursday (March 26th) by Lord Riddell, President of the Hospital. It will bear the name of the Chairman, Mr. Alfred Langton, who has presented the hospital with part of the land upon which it stands. In opening the Home, Lord Riddell said that the new building would provide accommodation for 65 nurses and 25 maids. The Nursing Services of this

country were so remarkable in their quiet perfection that little was ever heard of their doings.

Lord Riddell paid a warm tribute to the work of Mr. Langton for the Hospital, saying that largely through his help and generosity it had been raised to the rank of one of the great hospitals of London.

On March 18th an interesting service took place at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields in thanksgiving for half-a-century of work of the Metropolitan District Nursing Association, 12, Bloomsbury Square, W.C., now affiliated to the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute. No less than 550 nurses have received training in the care of the sick poor in their own homes during this period, nor does the good work end there, for nurses so trained have gone out into the world, and in their turn trained others both to nurse the patients and to instil lessons in hygiene in the homes which they enter.

Amongst those present at the service were Miss Hawkes, Lady-in-Waiting to Princess Marie Louise, President of the Association, whom she represented and Miss Bosanquet, formerly Secretary to Miss Florence Nightingale, who took such a warm interest in the foundation of the Society, and the Nightingale Choir from St. Thomas's Hospital acted in that capacity.

It was fitting that the lesson should be read by the Rev. E. F. Russell, Chaplain of the Guild of St. Barnabas, who throughout the whole period that the Home has been established in Bloomsbury has lived within a stone's throw of it, and whose deep interest in nurses and nursing is well known.

The preacher was the Rev. Clarence May, who said that one of the supreme tests as to work in life was the bedside care of the sick poor. Every Vicar of a slum parish could testify to the value of the work of these splendid women.

The collection was devoted to the fund for £10,000 which is being raised to provide more nurses, and, consequently, more accommodation at 12, Bloomsbury Square.

Dr. Dora C. Colebrook, in an interesting article on "Artificial Sunlight at North Islington Welfare Centre and Wards," writes in the March issue of *Maternity and Child Welfare*:—"The children come into the sunlight room in groups of eight. Most of them, at first at any rate, have their mothers with them. They range in age from a few weeks to five years. They stand, sit on stools, or lie on little stretchers round a wide-meshed wire guard, at a distance of about two feet from the lamp. The room is small, and we are always very glad when a child is sufficiently trustful to come without its mother. They all love the sun, and the toys that flourish in the sun. After the first session or two tears occur only when the sun 'goes out' and it is time to go back to fogs and stuffy clothes. The little babies coo and crow and stretch out their toes to the warmth. Our visitors are always much struck by their evident relish of it."

The value of the air transport of the sick was proved in the Great War, and an interesting account of an operation of this sort on a large scale is given in the Annual Report of the Royal Air Force in connection with an

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