

## THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

### THE PRINCESS LOUISE KENSINGTON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.

The Princess Louise Kensington Hospital for Children, St. Quintin Avenue, North Kensington, which was opened by His Majesty the King on May 21st, promises to hold its own with any of our fine English children's hospitals in its delightful position, its general spaciousness and the architectural arrangement of its different departments. The Ward Units are so large and sunny and bright that one can imagine they must react most beneficially on the sensitive organism of a sick child. They comprise one large ward, two side wards, kitchen, linen room and bathroom and, in each, the most up-to-date demands of modern hygiene have been met with liberality.

The Hospital is by no means complete; at present it has forty beds but it is hoped that, in the course of a few months, the number will be increased to eighty, and one cannot but admire the foresight which has been exercised in providing for subsequent expansion. The Nurses' quarters, for instance, are placed in what will one day be readily adaptable for a ward; asbestos partitions, easily removable, form the internal walls of each of the well-lit bedrooms, and the same partitioning divides the Nurses' dining room from the sitting room. The Sisters have a sitting room of their own.

Of the Theatre Unit the Matron is justly proud and the effect of its fine lighting and pretty pale blue and white tiled walls certainly justifies her appreciation of this important department. The theatre itself is large and attached to it are a fine sterilising room, an anaesthetic room, a surgeons' room, etc. The department communicates directly with the main corridor on second floor but otherwise it has one gable of that floor for itself; this has been turned to good account in its general arrangement.

The X-ray Department is, of course, very fine; no cost has been spared to secure its complete efficiency. There is a very large out-patients' department and, adjoining this, is a theatre for minor operations, smaller than the main theatre but none the less complete. The Receiving Room of the hospital, has a bathroom adjoining it which, to some extent, is regarded as a means of detection of infectious disease and is consequently a preventive to the admission of infectious cases to the wards.

But we must not forget to mention one of the great assets of the Hospital—the wide playing fields on which it abuts. These stretch beyond the Hospital over a large acreage—beautiful wide green spaces, play-grounds, and a swimming pond where, in the day time, hundreds of children play who, we are informed, take a very lively and most friendly interest in the Hospital, while their voices and laughter, far from being disturbing, are a source of pleasure to their sick comrades. These play fields cannot be built over, owing to the provisions of their endowment, and so they will remain a permanent asset of the Hospital productive of a good atmosphere and the preservation of a plentiful supply of sunlight to its wards, except when London fogs or clouded skies spread their darkness indiscriminately over the dwellings of grown-ups and children alike. The wide expanse of roof cannot, under the existing regulations of the London County Council, be used for regular open air treatment until a second staircase is provided, but we see in it a fine heritage for the little sick people of Kensington when this is done. At present the children can enjoy their roof when in charge of a nurse.

Miss Irvine Robertson, Matron of the Hospital, comes to this important appointment in the Royal Borough with fine qualifications. She was Sister in Shadwell Hospital, and in Edinburgh before she became Matron of the

Deaconess Hospital in that city, one, by the way, which makes a great feature of its children's department and, with modifications, has followed the Truby King system for years. Miss Irvine Robertson holds the Certificates of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and she has done a considerable amount of war work in Russia and the Balkans. The decoration she most prizes, in connection with this, is the St. George's Medal which she received for work in Russia during the early stages of the Great War; it is a decoration held by few as it is only awarded to those who have actually served "on the front."

I. M.

The Grand Council of the British Empire Cancer Campaign has received an intimation that the King (patron of the Campaign) will receive at Buckingham Palace on Monday, July 16th, the Oversea Delegates to the forthcoming International Conference on Cancer, which will be held at the House of the Royal Society of Medicine London W, from July 16th to 20th.

The Duke and Duchess of York will, on July 18th, receive all the Delegates and their wives at a reception to be held at Lancaster House (the London Museum), which has been lent by the trustees for this purpose.

The Prince of Wales recently visited Papworth Village Settlement, where sufferers from all forms of tuberculosis are treated. He made a complete tour of the Settlement, talked with many of the patients and, after a stay of about three hours, said he was deeply impressed by and highly appreciative of the work that is being done there.

Princess Mary, Viscountess Lascelles, has become a vice-patron of the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

This year's Hospital Saturday Fund amounts to £84,000 an increase of £4,888 over the previous year. The managers are to be congratulated, and so are the hospitals.

A project for the rebuilding of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children on the site of the old Foundling Hospital was discussed at the general court of governors held under the presidency of Lord Aberdare. The meeting approved of the proposal if the site should prove obtainable.

Such an arrangement would be ideal; let us hope it may materialise. A great scheme—requiring very generous support from the public.

Sir Gomer Berry, Chairman of the Infants Hospital, Vincent Square, S.W., has given £50,000 as a memorial of his wife. The sum is to cover the entire cost of the new maternity block which it is proposed to erect, and will form part of the general extension scheme which is to cost £250,000.

The Marchioness of Titchfield has received a cheque for £1,000 from the Lord Mayor of Birmingham as a result of his appeal for the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.

The Court of Governors of the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, accepted recently a scheme involving £200,000 for the extension of the hospital on its present site in Woodstock Road. Mr. W. R. Morris, who presided for the first time, said that he intended to give financial assistance to the hospital. The present buildings, which have undergone considerable extensions, were first opened in 1770.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)