

actually in use now since September 30th, and it is reasonable to say that lives have been saved there which otherwise might have been lost.

The Research Laboratory was completed and equipped by the end of the year, and research work was at once commenced. The Committee express their grateful thanks to the Medical Research Council for the keen interest they have shown and for the practical help they have given in providing the services of the Director of the Research Laboratories and of one of his assistants; the help given by the Council is warmly appreciated.

The quest for the origin of puerperal fever is one worthy of the devotion of a lifetime. Its discovery is the preliminary to the effective treatment of the disease which so often baffles the most experienced obstetricians, and attacks newly made mothers with deadly results.

The rebuilding of Queen Charlotte's Hospital at Hammer-smith is a gigantic undertaking. The first portion of the scheme has now been completed, but at least £200,000 is still required, and until this is obtained it will not be possible to proceed with the major portion of the scheme.

Much anxiety and responsibility must devolve at the present time upon the Secretary, Mr. Arthur Watts, in whose hands the raising of funds so largely rests. In the keeping also of the Matron, Miss Edith G. Dare, are the efficiency, and popularity of the hospital, factors which indirectly affect its financial position.

### THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

His Majesty the King, accompanied by Her Majesty the Queen, will open the new King George Hospital, Ilford, on Saturday, July 18th, their Majesties will pass through the Becontree estate of the London County Council *en route* to the hospital, and also visit the hospital health centre on the estate. Arrangements are being made in the Order of Proceedings, in connection with the ceremony, for their Majesties to be received at the south-eastern boundary of the estate by the Chairman of the London County Council, the Vice-Chairman of the Council, the Deputy-Chairman of the Council, the chairman of the Housing Committee, and the Clerk of the Council.

The Queen has made a third donation to the Papworth Village Settlement for the Tuberculous, with a gift towards the new women's hospital which is to be built there.

Princess Mary, Countess of Harewood, received a Royal welcome when she visited Gloucester recently to lay the foundation stone of the Extension to the Royal Infirmary. Upon her arrival Her Royal Highness walked through a guard of honour of Nurses of the institution to the stone-laying site, where, in welcoming the Princess, Mr. Stamford Hutton said it was 22 years since the Infirmary was designated "Royal" on the occasion of King Edward visiting the City. Everyone, he added, knew of Her Royal Highness's interest and goodness in all matters appertaining to the healing and nursing of the sick.

Her Royal Highness then declared the stone to be well and truly laid, and received the thanks of those present, proposed by the Duke of Beaufort, and seconded by the Mayor of Gloucester.

The King of the Belgians has granted his patronage to St. Mary's Hospital, London, as a token of his gratitude for the services rendered by the inoculation department of the hospital to Belgian soldiers during the war.

Widespread sympathy will be felt with Viscount Knutsford, Chairman of the London Hospital, in the illness which has overtaken him, and if good wishes could cure him he would have a speedy recovery. We do not wonder that he elected to be treated and nursed in the hospital for which he has done so much.

The Hearts of Oak Benefit Society have made a grant of £10,000 to the Institute of Ray Therapy, Camden Road, N.W., so that the members of the society may receive sunlight treatment.

Sir Albert Barratt, of Totteridge Park, Hertfordshire, who promised £20,000 to the Prince of Wales's General Hospital, Tottenham, on condition that another £10,000 was raised, has now waived the condition and handed the amount to the hospital governors.

### ALEXANDRA ROSE DAY IN LONDON.

In London and Greater London £50,000 was collected for the hospitals on Alexandra Rose Day. The amount aimed at was £60,000, but the day was not favourable for the sellers, as a good deal of rain fell. The record sum collected was £58,000, two years ago.

Princess Victoria in a telegram to the secretary says:—"I am delighted at the splendid result of Alexandra Day in London. Please convey my thanks to all concerned."

### NIGHTINGALEIANA.

EXTRACTS from "Institute of Kaiserswerth on the Rhine, for the Practical Training of Deaconesses."

By FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE,

1851.

There is an old legend that the nineteenth century is to be the "century of woman." Whatever the wisdom, or the foolishness of our forefathers may have meant by this, English women know but too well that, up to this time, the middle of the century, it has not been theirs . . . and whose fault is this? Not man's. For, in no country, perhaps, has so much freedom, nay, opportunity, been given to woman to cultivate her powers as best might seem to herself. . . . The authoress is courted, not shunned. Accordingly, the intellectual development of English women has made extraordinary progress. But, as the human being does not move two feet at once, except he jump, so, while the intellectual foot has made a step in advance, the practical foot has remained behind. Woman stands askew. Her education for action has not kept pace with her education for acquirement. . . . Shall we have less theory? God forbid. We shall not work better for ignorance. Every increase of knowledge is a benefit, by showing us more of the ways of God. . . . "Not what we know, but what we do, is our kingdom," and woman, perhaps, feels that she has not found her kingdom. . . . It has become of late the fashion, both of novel and of sermon writers, to cry up "Old Maids" to inveigh against regarding marriage as the vocation of all women, to declare that a single life is as happy as a married one, if people would but think so. So is the air as good an element for fish as the water, if they did but know how to live in it. Show us *how* to be single, and we will agree.

The fact remains that we must *learn* to visit, and we must be qualified to teach. . . .

More Labourers are wanted, and more will come. If this may be their future, the fear of becoming "Old Maid" will disappear; if they may be instructed how to become the active "handmaids of the Lord," what life can they desire more? That English women can work, and work successfully, in this cause, is proved by the Roman Catholic Sisters of Charity. Shall the Roman Catholic Church do all the work. Has not the Protestant the same Lord, Who accepted the services not only of men, but also of women? The harvest is ripe. Where are the sick and the poor wanting? Let those women of England, who sit in busy idleness, look at Germany. There are your sisters all at work. . . . Let Him not say, I have called My English handmaidens, but they would not answer.

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