

(University of London), said that it was the clear duty of the medical school to provide in its own building opportunities for the qualified practitioner to return after some years of absence to learn of any advances which had taken place in medical practice in the interim. Just as the progressive motor manufacturer provided for informed attention to his products once they were on the road, so, too, the medical school ought to provide not merely the "filling station" but facilities for a periodic overhaul and the incorporation of improvements contrived since the machine originally left the works. It was not only the education of the medical student, but the advance of knowledge and the further relief of human suffering that they aimed at, and he thought they must look for that in a larger measure from the institutes of medicine.

On November 5th, an appeal banquet will be held at the Mansion House in connection with the appeal of the medical college of St. Bartholomew's Hospital for funds for the purchase of the Charterhouse site.

Mr. John Frederick Jennings, M.B., F.R.C.S., of John Street, Berkeley Square, W., subject to a life interest in his property to his wife, has bequeathed the whole of his estate, the net personalty of which has been sworn at £45,790, to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., where he received his medical training and held the position of Demonstrator of Pathology in the Medical School.

Last year Lord Nuffield, a governor of Guy's Hospital, undertook to provide a block with accommodation for forty-six beds at a cost of £45,000. When he recently laid the foundation stone of the building he announced that since the original plans had been prepared he had learned that a further £20,000 would enable the accommodation to be increased to seventy-three beds, and that he had the greatest pleasure in giving that additional £20,000.

Sir Herbert Austin has presented to the Birmingham General Hospital a Tutostabilivolt apparatus for high voltage X-rays for the treatment of such diseases as cancer, and a new department to house it at a cost of £4,000.

The authorities of King's College Hospital, London, are appealing for empty pint and quart bottles for medicine.

The people of Chalfont and Gerrards Cross are to be congratulated on the new wing of 10 beds added to their cottage hospital, opened by Princess Victoria on October 6th. The extension was made possible by a gift of £2,000 from Mr. W. A. Shaw, of Diss Park, Gerrards Cross, in memory of his wife, who during her life was a keen worker for the hospital. He gave this money on condition that the work was started at once to relieve local unemployment. The wing, which cost £7,230, was opened free of debt.

The Act to amalgamate the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, the Royal Albert Hospital, and the Central Hospital, Plymouth, has been issued by H.M. Stationery Office in book form. Its full title is the Prince of Wales's Hospital Plymouth Act, 1934, and it is dated July 12th, 1934.

Sir Ian Fraser, as chairman of the Executive Council of St. Dunstan's, has, with Lady Fraser, undertaken a mission to Australia and New Zealand in order to visit the blinded soldiers and sailors in those Dominions who were trained at St. Dunstan's, and to help them to further the objects of their local organisations.

#### AN INTERESTING EVENT.

A most interesting event in the history of medicine is the Imperial Mission of the Royal College of Surgeons to Australasia and India. The College has acceded to the request of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, and of the recently constituted Medical Council in India, to conduct the first examination in anatomy and physiology for the F.R.C.S. (England) in Australia, New Zealand, and India. They are sending out as examiners, Mr. Gordon-Taylor, of the Middlesex Hospital, Professor G. A. Buckmaster, of Bristol University, Professor William Wright, of the London Hospital, and Professor John Mellanby, of St. Thomas's Hospital.

At a luncheon at the Ritz Hotel, Sir Harry Batterbee said it was impossible to exaggerate the importance and the value of such visits as a unifying force.

#### LEGAL MATTERS.

The number of cases in Courts of Law during the past month of interest to nurses, and affecting nurses, are legion. They have been fully reported in the daily press, and we need only briefly call attention to them. The case of the death of a patient in a London hospital who died from bronchial pneumonia after a second-year probationer had administered to her chromic acid in mistake for protargol, emphasises the points that only State registered nurses should administer dangerous drugs, and that the bottles containing such drugs should be distinctive and kept in a special cupboard.

A case in which a post-mortem examination revealed that the mucous membrane from the dead girl's palate and down the palate to the entrance of the stomach, had been destroyed, was adjourned by the Southwark Coroner. The doctor in charge of the case testified that he had given her a stimulant mixture which contained strychnine and hydrochloric acid.

Then there is the case of a child who died under an anaesthetic, concerning which Sir Bernard Spilsbury testified that he found regurgitated food in the wind pipe, and it appeared that the boy had had a full meal two and a half hours before the operation.

Deaths after treatment by unqualified persons indicate the need for legislation for the protection of the public.

Lastly, the conditions of a mortuary criticised at an inquest by the Aldershot Coroner, a criticism endorsed by the foreman of the jury, who added, "those who know it say it is the most disgusting place they have been to for a long time"; and the necessity in the case of the tragic death of a schoolboy of conducting the post-mortem examination in a field open to the public gaze, for lack of suitable provision, shows that there is ample scope for improvement in the sphere of public health.

#### RESIGNATION.

The announcement that after 27 years' service in the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, 17 as Matron of the institution, Miss Jane C. Cowie has intimated her desire to retire, has been received with widespread regret. When the intimation came before the directors of the Infirmary at a recent meeting, a deputation from the Board waited on Miss Cowie and conveyed to her the unanimous request of the meeting that she should reconsider the matter and continue to give them the benefit of her experienced guidance. Miss Cowie stated, however, that her decision was final.

An appreciation of the manner in which she has discharged her responsible duties, the gratitude of the directors for her skilled and devoted service, and their keen regret at the loss of her services has, we understand, been recorded on the minutes of the Infirmary Board.

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