

## THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The Duke of York will preside at a festival dinner in aid of St. Mary's Hospital on May 3rd, at Grosvenor House. The object of the dinner is to raise £25,000 towards the cost of a proposed new Nurses' Home. General Sir Hubert Gough is chairman of the dinner committee.

Sir William Goschen presided at the Quarterly Court of Governors of the London Hospital on March 7th.

The report of the committee stated that the capacity of the out-patient department was now tried to the uttermost by the recent increase of special departments and special clinics, such as the Cardiac Department and the Defective Speech Clinic. There were also six "follow up" clinics, in which the senior surgeons kept in touch with their in-patients. Patients after discharge attended at intervals of three or possibly six months over a long period, in some cases years. Only thus could the success of operative treatment be accurately gauged.

The result of the Quinquennial Appeal had been somewhat disappointing, as it had only brought in £80,000, and would call for renewed efforts.

To meet the constant advances of medicine and surgery, alterations and additions were inevitable, and the following expenditure was necessary for urgent extensions:—

£10,000 to complete and equip the new Massage and Electrical Department; £10,000 for Paying Wards; £25,000 for a hostel for domestic staff; £10,000 extension of Nurses' Homes.

Plans have been submitted for the enlargement of the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis, Maida Vale, at a cost of £25,000. The scheme provides, amongst other things, for more comfortable waiting accommodation, and a further five suites of consulting rooms. £5,000 has already been given or promised.

Chicken-pox will be a notifiable disease in the City of London from March 18th.

### EDUCATIONAL FILMS FOR SURGEONS.

#### Cinematographic Records of Operations.

A series of cinematograph films showing the technique of certain major abdominal operations is being prepared at the Royal Waterloo Hospital in Waterloo Road, London. The films are intended for use in the post-graduate teaching of surgery and for instructional purposes in general.

The operations are being performed by leading surgeons attached to the hospital, and complete cinematographic records have already been obtained showing the removal of a stomach for cancer and of a spleen for uncontrollable bleeding in a child. In each case the patient recovered, subsequent progress being most satisfactory.

The Royal Waterloo Hospital, which now includes women among its patients, was formerly opened only for children. It was the first children's hospital in existence, being founded in the year following the Battle of Waterloo. Some of its first cases were children of soldiers who had fought in the 1815 campaign.

### BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Lieutenant-General Sir Harold B. Fawcus has been appointed Director-General of the British Red Cross Society.

Sir Harold Fawcus retired from the post of Director-General of the Army Medical Services on March 1st, when he took up his duties at the headquarters of the British Red Cross Society.

### REGISTERED NURSES OPPOSE THE DIVISION OF THE PRELIMINARY STATE EXAMINATION.

Responsible Registered Nurses in England are evidently strongly opposed to the *Lancet* Commission policy of splitting the Preliminary State Examination for Nurses.

Two very large open meetings of Nurses have been held in Liverpool and in Manchester, at which the proposal was discussed, and the audience expressed themselves strongly opposed to the division, and being examined in Anatomy and Physiology before they had any opportunity of applying these subjects.

As the Council of the College of Nursing is divided on this question, the resolutions in opposition were sent up from these important centres to the College in London. We hope they have also been sent to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

### GUY'S OFFICIAL SENT FOR TRIAL.

#### £13,723 MENTIONED IN CHARGES.

William James Curry, 58, of Uphill, Mitchley Avenue, Purley, stated to hold £1,500-a-year posts on the staff of Guy's Hospital, was charged on remand at Tower Bridge on March 5, with:

Unlawfully and with intent to defraud, taking and applying to his own use and benefit £1,100 worth of 5 per cent. War Loan, 1929-47, Bearer Stock, the property of the Committee of "Guy's Hospital Gazette," and

Unlawfully and fraudulently embezzling £200 and £100, received and taken into his possession in the name and on account of "Guy's Hospital Gazette."

Mr. Lawson Walton, prosecuting, said Curry had been employed by the hospital for thirty-eight years, and in 1920 was appointed Clerk to the Governors at £900 per annum. He held other positions connected with the hospital which brought him in another £600, making £1,500 a year.

The total amount involved in the case is £13,723, but none of the money belonged to the hospital funds proper.

Some £3,000 of the funds of "Guy's Hospital Gazette" had been taken, and the rest included £1,000 from the Nurses' League, £375 from the Out-patients' Tea Fund, £150 from the Guy's Hospital Samaritan Fund, and £9,098, the private money of ladies employed in the hospital (presumably nurses) at one time or another and obtained from them by false pretences.

The false pretences were that accused was in a position to invest their savings at a bigger rate of interest than they could otherwise obtain. The hospital authorities were undertaking to pay for annuities for these nurses.

Since 1924 the accused had been steadily helping himself to the funds of the hospital "Gazette." Unfortunately the auditors were students, and no match for an astute business man, who must have easily "bamboozled" them.

Mr. Campion, the magistrate, suggested that the charges be amended as follows:

1. Was entrusted with £1,100 for a specific purpose, and did unlawfully convert the same to his own use and benefit;

2. Stealing War Loan Certificates worth £200 in July, 1924; and

3. Stealing War Loan Certificates worth £100 on August 19, 1933.

Mr. Walton agreed, and accused was committed for trial, bail being refused.

### FORMER LINEN MAID'S GIFT TO HOSPITAL.

The late Mrs. Harriet Jane Covell, of Bow, E., who left two-thirds of her residuary estate, amounting to some £453, to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, was a linen maid in the service of the hospital some 50 years ago, before her marriage.

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