

to £17,500, apart from which he has a private home for convalescents.

Under the Matronship of Miss Keys-Wells, the Nursing School attached to the Croydon General Hospital ranks high and a choice of highly educated girls is easily obtained.

Sir Jeremiah and Lady Colman, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on February 25th, marked the occasion by a gift of valuable apparatus to the Royal Waterloo Hospital, London. The gift is to include a diathermy coagulating and cutting current machine, and a mobile X-ray unit.

Sir Herbert Austin has presented to the Birmingham General Hospital a replica of the special X-ray apparatus used at the famous Charité Hospital, Berlin, which he acquired during his recent visit. He has also sent a cheque for £1,000 to the London Cancer Hospital for the purchase of similar apparatus.

This new form of treatment for cancer bears the name of its inventor, Dr. Chaoul, and is of a low voltage type.

The Council of the Institute of Medical Psychology has decided that all money received in response to the recent "Good Cause" appeal by Mr. S. P. B. Mais shall be spent on the immediate reduction of the waiting list of those seeking treatment. In this connection, four more doctors with psychiatric experience are to be appointed.

An Institute of Actinology, the biggest and best equipped in Europe, was officially opened on February 10th on the heights of Vallauris overlooking the French Riviera.

The building, which, with the equipment, cost over 15,000,000f. (£200,000), consists of nine storeys and will contain 270 beds, under the supervision of a staff of 100 doctors and nurses. A revolving solarium follows the sun and is equipped with all the latest helio-therapeutic apparatus. Invented and designed by Dr. Jean Saidman, the director of the institute, this solarium is a replica of those already built by him at Aix-les-Bains and Jamnagar in India. The latter was installed at the special request of the late Jam Sahib, who was deeply interested in helio-therapy. Research work will be carried on in the extensive laboratories.

It was announced at the quarterly meeting of the Leicester Royal Infirmary that the Zachary Merton Trust had agreed to contribute £34,000 for the building of a convalescent home.

INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION IN ROME.

Dr. van Deschwanden, President of the International Hospital Association, has convened the Fourth International Hospital Congress to meet in Rome from May 5th to 12th, 1935. The Italian Government is making the necessary arrangements in collaboration with the Chairman of the I.H.A.

The following topics will be discussed in the plenary sessions:—

1. The hospital as a link in a systematic Public Health Service.
2. The equipment and technical installation of hospitals.
3. The activity of the hospital and its protection in emergency.
4. The importance of different categories of hospital personnel in their relations with the community.

The afternoon of May 5th, and the whole of May 6th and 10th, will be devoted to meetings of study commissions and sub-commissions.

The Congress will be preceded by a study trip through the larger cities of Northern Italy, and will be followed

by a study or pleasure trip to Southern Italy, Sicily and Tripoli.

All particulars regarding the Congress can be obtained by writing to the Bureau of the International Hospital Association, Cantonal Hospital, Lucerne, Switzerland.

LEGAL MATTERS.

"TECHNICALLY A PAUPER."

"A very interested reader of our JOURNAL" calls our attention to the case recently commented on in Bow County Court by Judge Thompson, K.C.

The facts of the case are that Mr. George Smellie, a certified public accountant, of York Road, South Chingford, who was knocked down on December 11th by an L.C.C. tramcar, sustained a fractured leg, and was taken to Whipps Cross Hospital, where he remained over eight weeks, sued the Essex County Council to recover £7 10s.

The plaintiff said that on admission to the Hospital, they took from him £7 in notes, and 8s. in silver and copper, besides two new handkerchiefs, which he had just bought for a shilling each. When he left, he applied for the money but it was refused, and he was now told that it had been applied to his maintenance. He left the hospital with a few shillings supplied by friends in his pocket. A fortnight later he received a bill for £25 4s. 8d., for his maintenance, which he had not paid.

Addressing Mr. Edwards, who appeared for the Essex County Council, Judge Thompson said:—"You first take the money out of this injured man's pocket, and then turn him out into the world with nothing. It may be right, but it is very astonishing. Is it your practice to take away money from people in this way?"

Mr. Edwards: Yes, under the Poor Law Act.

Judge Thompson: This astonishes me. This man is like myself or any other man; taken into hospital with a broken leg. He does not apply for relief, and yet you say that directly he crosses the threshold he is applying for relief. I will look into this very thoroughly.

Mr. Thompson, solicitor to the West Ham Corporation, said that under the Local Government Act, 1929, which abolished the board of guardians, Whipps Cross Hospital was transferred to West Ham. It was intended to bring these hospitals under the Public Health Act and appropriate them, but Whipps Cross had not been appropriated, and under the Poor Law Act it was a workhouse infirmary, and anybody entering was in receipt of relief.

After further argument, the Judge said he had to find that the plaintiff was technically a pauper on admission to the hospital. Under the Poor Law Act, the defendants had a right to appropriate the money, and his judgment must therefore be for the defendants, with costs, as the defendants asked for them.

We should say that the sooner the ratepayers of West Ham insist on these hospitals being brought under the Public Health Act the better, or they may find themselves in like case with Mr. Smellie, who has our very sincere sympathy.

TAILOR-MADES FOR LADIES' WEAR.

Messrs. Boyd Cooper of 4, George Street, Hanover Square, London, W., have prepared an interesting little booklet which indicates the general trend of coming Spring Fashions. Coats and skirts can be supplied from £7 17s. 6d., and Wrap Coats from £7 7s., while the plates of a smart frock, for Afternoon and Garden Party wear in embroidered Organdie, and an Evening Dress in Croquignol with Schirred Satin scarf are particularly attractive.

Messrs. Boyd Cooper are also makers of the State Registered Nurses' uniform, and makers of uniform to the leading Nursing Services and Hospitals.

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