

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

Such information as has reached this country concerning the horrors of the civil war in Spain has appalled the world. News sent by press representatives in that country is strictly censored, but refugees bring stories of the wholesale assassination of ecclesiastics, priests being chased in a forest like wild beasts, and of the torture and outrage of nuns by Communist adherents of the late Government, under conditions of fiendish malice which would be incredible were they not vouched for by eye-witnesses.

In refreshing contrast is the serenity of the picture we here reproduce of a Sister of Mercy giving nursing aid to a wounded insurgent. No hint of trouble, still less of fear, appears on the face of the nun. She carries on her work of compassion knowing full well the terrible dangers which surround her, but giving her whole attention to the duty of the moment, and calmly performing it.

The Duchess of York is to open in the autumn the first part of a big extension scheme costing £50,000, at the Royal Bucks Hospital, at Aylesbury.

Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, has become president of the New Sussex Hospital for Women and Children, Brighton, which is entirely officered by women doctors.

The Earl of Derby, speaking at the opening by the Countess of Derby of the new maternity hospital at Preston Royal Infirmary, said he sincerely hoped that the voluntary hospital system would remain part of our medical services.

He did not disparage municipal work, but he felt it would be a slur on this country if voluntary hospitals were ever allowed to fade out of existence. The fact that voluntary and municipal hospitals were running side by side gave a spur to both to make themselves as efficient as possible.

The new hospital has 43 beds, and will also give ante-natal treatment for an area with a population of a quarter of a million. Lancashire County Council and Preston Corporation are co-operating with the infirmary authorities to provide the ante-natal treatment.

A similar view to that expressed by Lord Derby is held by the Minister of Health. Speaking publicly recently, Sir Kingsley Wood said in many respects we were living in a new era so far as our public health services were concerned. Up to five years ago there was no general treatment of the sick by the Public Health Authorities, personal medical services of a public character being previously only available to those coming under the poor law. Another step forward had been the transfer of large

numbers of infirmaries and other institutions to the County Councils and County Borough Councils. This had meant the adaptation of many of them so that complete treatment could be provided on modern lines. The relationship between the Public Health Authorities and the Voluntary Hospitals was to-day closer and better. It was more and more appreciated that the Authorities and Voluntary Hospitals should pool and develop their resources in the way best calculated to serve the needs of the men and women living in their particular areas. Local Authorities in developing their hospitals would no doubt act in consultation and not in competition with Voluntary Hospitals, and where Voluntary Hospitals themselves intended to expand, such expansion could often be fostered by the receipt of patients on behalf of and at the expense of the Local Authorities. Where the needs of a district required entirely new hospital accommodation it should be provided in accordance with a well-considered plan for the future which should be worked out by the Local Authorities and the Voluntary Hospitals in close and cordial co-operation. All Hospitals had to-day one common and identical purpose, the relief of suffering, the conquest of disease

and the saving of life. A practical and unified system of co-operation between them was the sensible and practical course; they must be marshalled together in a joint war against disease and death.

Hawkhead Mental Hospital is to be the first all-electric hospital under the control of Glasgow Corporation. All the heating, cooking, and lighting will be done by electricity and there will be accommodation for 80 patients with quarters for a staff of 110 nurses. A new infectious hospital on the same

lines is shortly to be started at Cowglen, and plans are already in preparation. It is to cost £300,000 and have 300 beds.

Mrs. Stanley Baldwin announces that as a result of the garden party at 10, Downing Street on July 14th, for the Safer Motherhood Appeal, the sum of £1,110, clear of all expenses, was raised.

"ENTENTE CORDIALE" IN BRAILLE.

As a result of closer co-operation between English and French blind organisations a system of interchange of English and French books in Braille is being discussed between the National Institute for the Blind and the Association Valentin Haüy, its Paris counterpart.

The Medical Director of the Paris Massage School will shortly visit London to inspect the National Institute's training centre and the Eicholz Clinic where blind masseurs carry out electro-therapeutic and other treatments.



A SISTER OF MERCY TENDING A WOUNDED SOLDIER AT THE BASE HOSPITAL BEHIND THE LINES AT SOMOSIERRA.

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