

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, PLAISTOW, E.

We have known for many years of the good work done at St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, at Plaistow, in the East End of London, where the needs of the people are urgent, and where *real* nurses love to work.

St. Mary's is the only Hospital for Women and Children only in the East End, and has 54 beds allocated to women and 37 to children. Medical, Surgical, Gynæcological, Skin and Ophthalmic cases are received, and it is very well equipped.

There are two private single-bedded wards and 12 curtained cubicles, which are rarely occupied by paying patients, and therefore utilised by the ordinary patients. Very well-equipped spacious Theatre block and X-ray Department. The Out-patient Department in another building across the road, is very dilapidated, and part of this absolutely unfit for occupation. A great effort is now

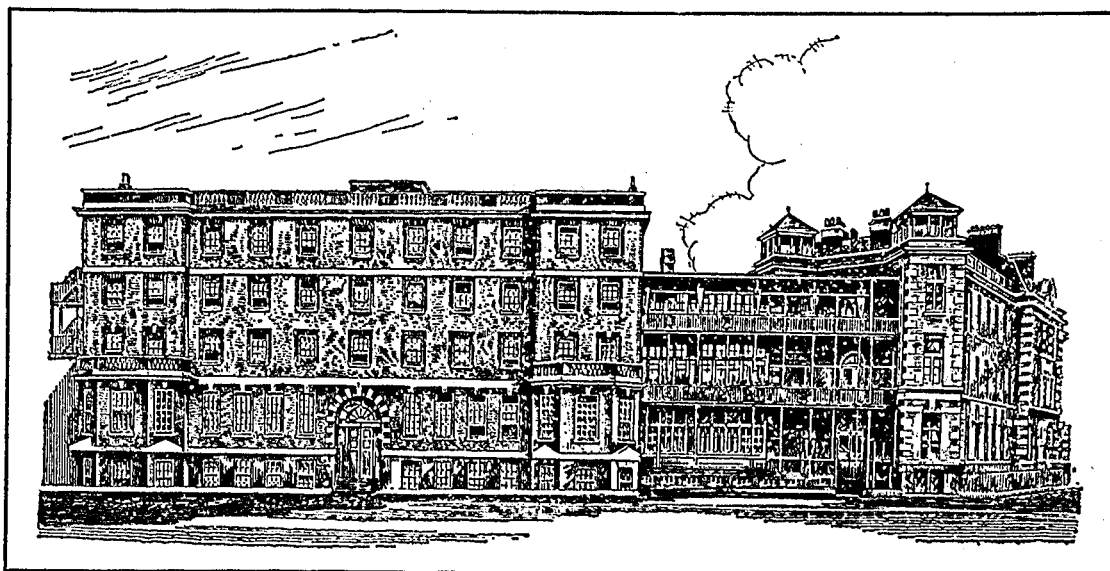
Hospital. Unfortunately the Hospital is not so widely known as it should be, and it is difficult to induce people to take a half hour's train ride from Charing Cross to come and see it, but the few who do visit it always express surprise at the beauty, homeliness and comfort of the Hospital.

The present Matron, Miss Dickinson, is heart and soul in its service, and as the National Council of Nurses' Nightingale Scholar in 1934, we congratulate her upon her sphere of duty. Her environment provides real happiness to one of her sympathies.

The Duke of Gloucester attended a special General Court of the Governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital to receive his charges as a Governor and as President. His Royal Highness was given a very hearty reception by the students on his arrival at the hospital, where he was received by the Treasurer, Mr. George Aylwen.

The Court was held in the Great Hall, and the presence of a number of the nursing staff lent modernity to the occasion.

After the Duke had received the charge of a Governor



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being made to collect money to rebuild on this site a modern Out-patient Department with a Maids' Home on top.

The Hospital was founded as a Day Nursery in 1888 by the late Rev. T. Given Wilson, then Vicar of Plaistow. It soon became apparent that a Children's Hospital was an urgent necessity, and through the generosity of the late Reverend Henry Blissett a new building was provided and officially opened in 1892. From such small beginnings the hospital has rapidly and steadily grown until to-day it has 71 beds, a modern X-ray and Massage Department, an excellent Theatre suite, a good Casualty Theatre, and Casualty Department, open day and night. It has two Resident Medical Officers and a very efficient Honorary Medical and Surgical Staff.

The Nurses are very well provided for, and are proud of the very beautiful Lady Helen Seymour Home, opened in 1923 by Her Royal Highness Princess Mary.

Some of the Wards are beautifully decorated with tiled pictures and the outlook from the Ward balconies over the Lister Gardens is a source of pleasure to the patients, when they are able to leave their beds, or have their beds pushed out on to the balconies.

The whole atmosphere of the Hospital is a very homely one, and the In-patients call it the "Home-from-Home"

and the charge of President of the Hospital, he signified his pleasure in accepting the honour of becoming a "Perpetual Student" of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and signed the declaration.

In assuming office as the President of this ancient and Royal Foundation the Duke succeeds his eldest brother, his father and his grandfather in the position.

Lord Nuffield has offered to put at the disposal of the trustees appointed in connection with his gift of £2,000,000 to the University of Oxford for the purposes of the Medical School the sum of approximately £168,000, in order to provide more facilities for graduate students from South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand to share the advantages of the Oxford School.

Through the generosity of Sir E. W. Meyerstein, who has made a gift of £32,576 for the purpose, the President and Governors of St. Mary's Hospital have acquired the freehold of a site of some 10,500 sq. ft. adjoining the hospital in Praed Street, Paddington. This site will provide the necessary land for the extension of the hospital.

A letter of thanks from the Queen (President of the hospital) has been sent through her Majesty's private secretary to Sir E. W. Meyerstein for his munificent gift.

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