

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

When Queen Mary opened the Seamen's Hospital Society's new hospital at the Royal Albert Dock, North Woolwich, on October 14th, she was presented with a paper-knife made from the teak bench used by Sir Patrick Manson, "Father of Tropical Medicine," in his laboratory at the old Albert Dock Hospital.

Our Royal ladies, especially the Duchess of Kent, have been kept busy visiting hospitals and nurses' homes, and we note that at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital for women in Euston Road, the word Nurses' "House" is appropriately substituted for "Home." Just a touch which is applicable to modern ideas. Less than a year ago the Duchess of Kent laid the foundation-stone of the building which adjoins the hospital, and in opening the house she was able to see the completion of the scheme in which she has taken a keen personal interest.

The house contains pleasantly furnished common rooms, sitting rooms, and bedrooms for 80 nurses; and it also provides accommodation for the preliminary training school for nurses, thus meeting a particular need of the hospital. The entrance hall has been designed as a memorial to overseas nurses who lost their lives in the War, and a plaque on the wall, bearing the arms of the Dominions, is inscribed:—

This Hall and the land on which it stands were given to the Hospital to be a memorial in honour of those overseas nurses who died while serving with the Allied Armies, 1914-1918.

For lamentation, memory,
For pity, praise.

The names of the nurses are recorded in the board room of the hospital, and this memorial marks the fulfilment of a project for which nearly £5,000 was raised by the late Dowager Lady Dufferin.

The Duchess of Kent was received by the Mayor of St. Pancras (Mr. John Sperti) and the Mayoress; Lady Robertson, Chairman of the hospital; Mrs. John Mulholland, Vice-Chairman; Lady Kindersley, Honorary Treasurer; and Miss Merrikin, Matron.

In declaring the House open the Duchess of Kent congratulated all concerned on the work which had been so well and so splendidly accomplished; one felt sure the nurses would appreciate the beautiful new building.

Sir Robert Kindersley, in thanking the Duchess for receiving the purses, said that the cost of the nurses' house, with the additional land which it had been necessary to buy to protect the hospital's situation and the new boiler plant which had been installed, was £75,000. So far they had received in gifts £49,000, which left a balance of £26,000 still to be raised.

The Duchess of Kent, on October 12th, visited Southend-on-Sea, and laid the foundation-stone of the new extensions to the Municipal Hospital, Rochford, which marks the commencement of important developments. The extension scheme when completed will cost £400,000. Eighty members of the nursing staff of the hospital, together with members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Girl Guides, formed the Guard of Honour.

Her Royal Highness, who was attended by Lady Brecknock as Lady-in-Waiting, was received, on arrival, by the Lord-Lieutenant of Essex, Col. F. H. D. C. Whitmore, who presented the High Sheriff of the County, Sir James Adam and Lady Adam, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Southend, Alderman Dowsett and Mrs. Dowsett. Other presentations, including the Medical Officer of Health,

Dr. C. Grant Pugh, the Medical Superintendent, Dr. S. Cleman, and the Matron, Miss Alice Street, were then made by the Mayor.

The Mayor, outlining the extension of which Her Royal Highness was laying the foundation stone, said that it was a portion of a scheme which would eventually provide accommodation for 900 patients, and would cost £400,000. The Duchess laid the stone with a trowel handed to her by the architect, and after the Archdeacon of Southend had pronounced the blessing, the Mayor asked the Duchess to accept an antique silver snuff box, which originally belonged to Sir Robert Peel.

The Duchess then visited the surgical wards on the ground floor, and in each of these wards the Sister had the honour of being presented.

When Her Royal Highness left for the Southend General Hospital, where she inspected the children's wing, she received a great ovation. As a result of the presentation of purses, the Hospital benefited to the extent of £700.

The case of Jean Hogg, of Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire, who fell in the street and developed tetanus within a week, is testimony to the medical treatment and devoted nursing at the Scunthorpe Hospital. She was given 150,000 units of anti-tetanus serum, but there was no response. The Secretary of the Hospital telegraphed for a further supply, and a quarter of a million units were sent from London by car. Still the response was barely perceptible. Jean remained with back arched and rigid and jaws fixed; not until nearly a million units had been injected did she begin to show signs of response. Then she began to recover, and now she has returned home, a testimony to the skill and care of doctors and nurses.

Lord Nuffield has made a donation of £10,000 to the funds of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, which is celebrating its centenary.

Mr. William Partridge, hotel proprietor, of Exeter, in making a bequest of 50 guineas to the London Hospital, stated that it was "as a token of my deep gratitude and appreciation of the late Mr. Hunter Todd's great skill and extreme kindness."

The Joint Voluntary Aid Detachment Council appeals for recruits for the following categories: Trained nurses, pharmacists, dispensers, radiographers, masseurs, and masseuses, laboratory assistants, opticians, hospital cooks, cooks, sanitary assistants.

Apply to the Secretary, St. John Ambulance Brigade, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, E.C., or to the Superintendent of any St. John Division, or to the Secretary, British Red Cross Society, 14, Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1, or to local branches of the Society.

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE ORATION.

In reply to several enquiries "The Commemoration of Florence Nightingale," the Oration delivered by Sir George Newman, K.C.B., M.D., F.R.C.S., before a general meeting of the International Council of Nurses, in July, 1937, can be procured in pamphlet form from the Hon. Secretary, National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Great Britain, at 14, Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1.

It will be remembered that the institution of an Oration in honour of Miss Nightingale, to be delivered occasionally, was proposed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick at the Meeting of the General Council of the Foundation in July, 1937.

We advise every nurse to procure a copy of this historic document to add to her Nightingaleiana.

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