

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The Queen has sent a cheque for 1,000 guineas, given by an anonymous donor to the chairman of the Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital for Children, towards the building of the new country hospital which is in course of construction at Banstead Wood, Surrey. The foundation-stone was laid by the Queen, when Duchess of York, in July, 1936. By the wish of the donor, and with the Queen's consent, the gift will be commemorated by naming two beds after the Princess Elizabeth and the Princess Margaret.

Queen Mary, who has been patroness of the Seamen's Hospital Society since 1910, will open the new Albert Dock Hospital in October.

It is being built on a new site after nearly 50 years of strenuous service in the heart of London's dockland.

Extensions and improvements to cost £300,000 are contemplated to mark the bi-centenary of the London Hospital, which falls in 1940.

It is the Committee's intention to mark the bi-centenary by raising the large sum of money which is required for structural improvements. The appeal will be inaugurated by a festival dinner to be held on May 25th at the Mansion House, presided over by the Duke of Kent.

Among the items of the scheme of reconstruction are the extension of the Cavell Home to provide additional accommodation for the nursing staff, new ear, nose, and throat wards and operating theatre, a new dental department, remodelling of the theatre floor, provision of rooms for noisy or dying patients, electrification of lifts, and establishment of a casualty department and a fracture clinic.

The Duke of Kent, as president of University College Hospital, presided at a festival dinner in the Mansion House, in aid of funds for the hospital. He announced at the end of the evening that subscriptions raised during the dinner totalled £20,000.

The Duke, who proposed the toast of the hospital, paid tribute to the work of the nurses. He said the governing body were devoting serious attention to the question of the general condition of work and hours of duty of nurses. Anybody who had been ill knew the untold benefit that a really good nurse could be. It was obvious that if they were tired or subject to any unnecessary discomfort, the nursing staff of a big hospital could not give the extra attention and sympathy to the individual patient which made so great a difference.

At the University College Hospital a reorganisation has been suggested which would provide a 96 hours fortnight period of duty. What they would like to put into operation would involve them in an additional expenditure of £11,000 a year.

The rebuilding committee of Guy's Hospital has been discussing recently the rebuilding of the hospital. The rebuilding, however, would cost between £300,000 and £400,000, and the hospital have not a penny towards it. The money so far raised by the appeal launched by the hospital has all been spent, partly on certain earmarked extensions and improvements and in wiping off debt.

Proposals for considerable additional hospital accommodation in Middlesex and for the provision of two seaside convalescent homes have been adopted by Middlesex County Council.

It has been agreed to proceed as soon as possible with an extension of West Middlesex County Hospital by the provision of a new block for 566 beds and a home for some 635 nurses and domestic staff. This will increase the total patient accommodation of the hospital to about

1,900 beds. The extensions are estimated to cost £658,000 and £72,000 for equipment.

The Governors of Westminster Hospital have resolved to name a portion of the new hospital the Coronation Wing, by permission the first ward is to be called King George VI ward, and Queen Elizabeth has given permission for the second to be named Queen Elizabeth Ward. Further sums amounting to £10,000 have been specially contributed towards the cost of the Coronation Wing.

The London Hospitals have received during the past year a present of over 5,000 gramophone records by the courtesy of the B.B.C. and the record manufacturing companies. These records, which have been used for broadcast purposes, are delivered to the hospitals free by the Gramophone Company in accordance with a schedule drawn up by King Edward's Hospital Fund for London in collaboration with the B.B.C. This scheme has been going on for some years, and there must now be many thousands of patients who have benefited from the generosity of the parties concerned.

A Provisional Central Council has been set up by the British Hospitals Association to advise how the first three recommendations of the report of the Voluntary Hospitals Commission can best be carried out. The recommendations are the division of the country into hospital regions; the formation in each region of a Voluntary Hospitals Regional Council to correlate hospital work and needs in the region; and the formation of a Voluntary Hospitals Central Council to co-ordinate the work of the Regional Councils.

The Governor-General, Sir Patrick Duncan, has officially opened Capetown's new hospital, which is built on the Groote Schuur estate, next to the medical block of the University. It will accommodate 900 patients.

It has been opened just in time to relieve what was becoming dangerous pressure on the accommodation in old hospitals in the Cape. The total cost of the building and equipment is just under £1,000,000.

HELPING THE BLIND.

The London Society for Teaching and Training the Blind is appealing for £100,000 in support of its merciful work.

LONGER ANNUAL LEAVE FOR NURSES IN MENTAL HOSPITALS SERVICE OF THE L.C.C.

THE MENTAL HOSPITALS COMMITTEE proposes to grant another week's annual leave to many grades of nursing staff, including probationer nurses, in the Mental Hospitals service of the Council. At the moment these nurses receive two weeks' annual leave, including the public holidays, with pay. In future they will be granted three weeks' holiday (inclusive of public holidays). Improvements are also to be made in the holiday scales of Matrons and Assistant Matrons employed in the Council's mental services.

The employment of the necessary additional staff to act as holiday reliefs is estimated to cost £15,000 in the next financial year and thereafter about £18,000 a year.

LEGACIES TO NURSES.

Sir Benjamin Johnson left his nurse, Miss Nancy Barnett, £500.

The late Mr. Constantine Philip Story, of Southport, left legacies of £100 each to Nurse E. Fitton and Nurse M. Parry.

Victoria Ursula Lady Nicholson left £1,000 to Nurse Eileen Irvin.

Miss Elizabeth Haldane, of Cloan, N.B., left £500 to the College of Nursing.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)