

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

Music lovers will be interested to learn of a brilliant concert arranged to take place at the Queen's Hall, London, on the evening of June 21st. The concert is to mark the bi-centenary of Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, the Empire's largest maternity hospital; the musicians will be in Georgian dress and will play by candlelight. The programme will include Mozart masterpieces and Haydn's witty "Farewell Symphony" will be included by special request.

Tribute to the work of the Marie Curie Hospital, Hampstead, was recently paid by Sir Edward Mellanby, as chief administrative officer of the Medical Research Council, at a meeting held at Seaford House, Belgrave Square, London, by permission of Lady Howard de Walden.

The hospital has 39 beds, including 9 for private patients, and admits over 700 in-patients annually. It is mainly supported by voluntary gifts, enabling necessitous patients to be admitted free. The hospital receives radium from the Medical Research Council, and in 1935 a questionnaire was issued to all hospitals in order to obtain complete information regarding relative methods of treating cancer. The enquiry showed that the Marie Curie Hospital was more successful in its treatment than any other centre in the country; 40 per cent. of the women treated by this hospital were still living.

The Annual Meeting of the Hostel of St. Luke (the clergy nursing home) Fitzroy Square, W., was recently held at the Central Hall, Westminster. Archdeacon G. J. Howson presided in place of the Dean of Westminster, who was prevented through illness from doing so. A resolution was unanimously carried declaring that in view of the great increase in the medical and surgical needs of the clergy and their dependents, every effort should be made to increase the endowment fund, as well as current income from donations, subscriptions and legacies.

The annual report showed that 373 patients were admitted in 1938, slightly fewer than in the previous year. Of this number 269 were treated free of charge. The number of out-patients was 818, of whom 547 had five consultations. An estimated amount of £2,000 was required to provide increased accommodation for the nursing staff. King Edward's Hospital Fund had approved these additions and had promised a grant of £100.

Dr. Kenneth Harris, in acknowledging an expression of thanks to the medical, nursing and administrative staffs of the hostel, referred in high terms to the nursing service.

New Hospitals.

For new hospitals or new extensions to existing hospitals in danger areas, the principal recommendations are that buildings should be steel framed and that roofs should be constructed of solid reinforced concrete at least five inches thick. Shelter accommodation should be provided, and a table is set out giving the additional loading which basement ceilings should be capable of carrying in order to bear the weight of the building if it collapses.

Toronto, 1939.

The Congress of the International Hospital Association will be held in Toronto, Canada, from September 9th to 24th, 1939, when many outstanding Papers will be read. In addition, it will enable a study of some of the largest and most modern hospitals in Canada and the United States of America. Every country is expected to send a large and representative Delegation.

The London Jewish Hospital, Stepney Green, has just completed the building of a new nurses' home, at the cost

of £60,000, for a staff of 90. There is provision for two additional floors, making sever in all to increase the number of bedrooms to 140. Mrs. James de Rothschild, one of the Vice-Presidents of the hospital, recently declared the home open. The hospital trains nurses for the State Register, so that it is to be hoped its patrons will use their influence to prevent its degradation by association with a Roll of non-trained "Assistant Nurses."

Miss M. Hampshire, the Matron, will, we feel sure, realise how urgent to her pupils it would be to amend the Nurses Registration Act to admit a second grade of nurses, and how impossible it will become to keep up Standard I should the Government betray their rights and privileges.

HOSPITALS IN WAR TIME.

MEMORANDUM ON EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS.

The Minister of Health has issued to all hospital authorities and voluntary hospitals a Memorandum explaining the main lines on which a comprehensive scheme for a war time hospital organisation is being worked out for England and Wales. (A separate Memorandum for Scotland will appear shortly.) In the course of the next few weeks, the Ministry will have sent to every hospital included in the Emergency Hospital Scheme a communication explaining precisely what part the hospital is to play in the event of an emergency, but the Memorandum shows the whole scheme in perspective.

It is explained that, unlike other measures for protection against air raids, for which schemes are initiated by local authorities, the hospital arrangements are organised directly by the Minister of Health, through the medium of hospital officers stationed in various parts of the country, who would exercise general control over the operation of the scheme in an emergency. The Minister is assisted in this work by a number of consultant specialists appointed in accordance with the advice of the Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons.

Classification of All Hospitals.

The basis of the emergency scheme is the division of hospitals into different classes, according to the use which it is intended that they should serve. Almost all hospitals are being included in the emergency scheme in some way. Only a few which for medical reasons are considered unsuitable are being excluded.

Room is to be made for the reception of casualties in one wing or block of most of the mental hospitals in the country, and a few selected mental hospitals are to be completely cleared of their ordinary patients, who are to be transferred to other mental institutions, in order to provide some major units for the reception of casualties transferred from the largest towns.

Personnel.

It is proposed that under the affiliation schemes the medical staff of groups of affiliated hospitals should be divided up into surgical teams and teams assigned to the appropriate hospitals. There are also to be mobile surgical teams available to deal with exceptional pressure wherever it might come. Where additional medical personnel is required beyond the assistance which can be given by affiliated hospitals, requests for help will be made to the Ministry, and the General Emergency Committee of the British Medical Association, who have already established a register of all medical men and women who would be available in an emergency, will advise on the allocation of medical personnel as they are required. It is intended in advance of an emergency to allot individual doctors to particular hospitals or groups of hospitals.

Nursing staffs are to be organised in the same way. A register of trained nurses, assistant nurses and of women as nursing auxiliaries is being compiled,

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