

HOSPITAL WORLD.

On April 20th, the King and Queen will open the new Westminster Hospital, facing St. John's Gardens, in Horseferry Road. Their Majesties will tour the hospital, and they will declare two wards open which bear their names—the King George VI Ward and the Queen Elizabeth Ward.

Lord Wigram (the President of the hospital) states: "The new hospital has taken four years to build, and it will now be a great health centre which will not only serve Westminster but the whole country. The research work in our medical school will serve the Empire and the world."

The hospital breaks with tradition, particularly in regard to the needs of out-patients. To avoid delay, they will be grouped and sent to appropriate consulting rooms in contact with the in-patients' wards dealing with that particular disease. Everything possible has been done to eliminate long waits by out-patients.

A feature of the sunshine wards for children is a "mother's flat." Here infants who must be nursed by their mothers will receive treatment under home conditions, the mothers living in the flat during the period of the children's illness.

A new ward system is also introduced. Patients suffering from the same type of disease or condition are grouped in units on the same floor. The staff is thus spared unnecessary walking, and becomes responsible for both men and women patients in each unit. On each ward floor a sitting-room has been set aside for anxious visitors.

An appeal for £100,000 to complete the building scheme has been issued. Already three-quarters of the cost of erection has been contributed by generous friends.

We sympathise with the Chairman of the London Hospital who referred at the recent Quarterly Court of Governors to the adverse effect upon home charities of the huge amounts collected for causes connected with the international situation. He knew those demands were pressing, but the idea that schemes of home charities could easily be postponed till better times had its dangers.

Sir William Goschen said that the London Hospital laboratories were so cramped for space and for equipment that the actual work of the moment could not be carried on properly. The aural wards, too, demanded urgent reorganisation, and for the dental department they had a grant promised on condition that the reconstruction work was in hand by a certain date. All these projects were not extravagant visions but urgent practical needs for the benefit of suffering patients.

The report presented by the House Committee stated that although funds had been well maintained to meet normal expenses the response to the bi-centenary appeal for

£325,100 had fallen far short of expectations. The international situation brought appeal activities practically to a standstill and the charitable stream was diverted to foreign and refugee funds.

We are pleased to note that several large legacies have encouraged the hospitals. Baroness Dalziel stated in her will that as she had no children she felt justified in dividing up what remained of her estate for the benefit of less fortunate individuals.

Thus she left £20,000 to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. She also left £10,000 each to seven charities, £5,000 each to seven charities, £3,000 each to eight charities, £2,000 each to 28 charities, and £1,000 each to three charities.

The Court of Common Council of the City of London which met at Guildhall on March 9th, passed a motion recommending that a grant of £50,000 be made to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, spread over 10 years at the rate of £5,000 a year. A condition of this grant is that no payment shall be made

unless and until £450,000 shall have been raised elsewhere within three years from January 30th, 1939.

At a dinner held at the Mansion House, on January 30th, at which the Duke of Gloucester (the President of the hospital) and Mr. George Aylwen (the Treasurer) spoke, the sum of £58,500 was raised as the initial effort towards the total sum of £650,000 required. Since then the fund has risen to approximately £70,000.

The private view of the winning and other designs submitted for the new

St. George's Hospital was held recently in the board room.

The assessors awarded first place and a premium of £500 to W. H. Watkins and Partners, Trafalgar House, Waterloo-Place, S.W. Second and third places, with premiums of £300 and £200, were awarded respectively to D. Carr and W. F. Howard, Edinburgh, and Bradshaw, Cass and Hope, Bolton, Lancs.

Two new hospitals for the R.A.F. at home, are to be erected at a cost of between £210,000 and £230,000 each, one at Ely and the other at Wroughton, because of additional requirements arising from the expansion of the Force.

There are at present only two R.A.F. general hospitals at home—one at Halton, with about 564 beds, and the other at Cranwell, with 255. A small officers' hospital is also maintained at Uxbridge. Halton Hospital is being considerably enlarged at an estimated cost of £80,000.

A new centre for research into the causes of mental defects and abnormalities and border-line conditions, to be known as the Burden Neurological Clinic, has been established at Stoke Park, near Bristol, by Mrs. R. G. Burden.



Photo.]

[The Architect and Building News.

THE NEW WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL TO BE OPENED BY THE KING ON APRIL 20th.

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