

in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Brown for his instructive and enthralling lecture, which, in a single hour, revealed the varied knowledge which the ancient art of sculpture demands, announced May 6th as the date when the members would look forward to Mr. Brown's next lecture entitled "Children's Art," which, we believe, he finds a most fascinating subject.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

ON Friday, February 25th, a large number were assembled at The Great Hall, British Medical Association, for a Conference arranged by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to hear Miss R. Spilling, of Norway, speak on the use of B.C.G. Vaccination in preventing the spread of tuberculosis infection.

Miss Spilling gave a masterly and comprehensive account, with much data, of the almost spectacular progress made in Norway to prevent the spread of tuberculosis from May 8th, 1900, when the first Law came into being (followed by later amendment), until in April, 1948, when the most recent legislation regarding the use of B.C.G. Vaccination came into force.

Norway is the first country to have a law in connection with B.C.G. Vaccination of all tubercular negative persons of the population.

Miss Spilling stated that there was no claim made that the vaccination was a cure for tuberculosis, but emphasised with complete confidence that there is now available a vaccine which has great value for prophylactic work giving a certain degree of specific protection; the figure given being 80 per cent. protection at least.

A very minute account was given of the research work carried out by Dr. Heinbeck and the late Dr. Scheel on Student Nurses; the results of these experiments proving so encouraging that any prejudice on the part of the population was overcome, and B.C.G. Vaccination became to be accepted on a big scale.

It is recognised in Norway that the tremendous success of this scheme is, in a large measure, brought about by the work of the Public Health Nurses in their daily contact with the population.

Dr. Jameson, Chief Medical Officer, was in the chair, and expressed our thanks to the lecturer and our indebtedness to the pioneer work which has been carried out in Norway in this new field of preventive medicine.

These tributes were fully endorsed by Dr. Heafe, Senior Medical Officer of the London County Council, who had himself seen something of the work when visiting Norway.

A short discussion followed, during which several points were clarified, and one came away feeling that another great step forward has been made in the fight against tuberculosis.

W. L. O.

A New Hospital Library.

A LIBRARY is to be opened at Southmead Hospital, Bristol, on Friday, April 8th, by General Sir Ronald Adam, Bt., G.C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., President of the Library Association and Chairman and Director-General of the British Council.

The library has been designed and equipped on new lines to serve both patients and hospital personnel for general and recreational reading. To all intents and purposes it will be a branch library, staffed by professionally qualified librarians, within the precincts of the hospital. It will be the first hospital library to be provided in this country since the hospitals were taken over by the State.

St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, London, E.C.1.

For Diseases of the Rectum and Colon.

THE world-famous Hospital of St. Mark's began in a small room in Aldersgate where in the year 1835 Frederick Salmon launched his great project—a "Fistula Dispensary." He was encouraged and supported by Alderman Wm. Taylor Copeland, who became President of this small but ambitious venture. Alderman Copeland created a precedent, and the Lord Mayor of London has always been the President of the Hospital.

The work quickly increased and very soon new premises had to be found. In 1838 the Dispensary was moved to Charterhouse Square where it remained for 13 years. Again larger premises were necessary and eventually in 1857 part of the present site in City Road was acquired from the Worshipful Company of Dyers.

On St. Mark's Day, 1854, the new building, with 25 beds, was opened and named St. Mark's Hospital for Fistula and



The Surgeon, Mr. Lloyd-Davies, M.S., F.R.C.S., with a patient in the busy cubical new Out Patient Department, where an average of seventy cases are received daily.

other Diseases of the Rectum. A few years later 34 beds were in use.

Although the work progressed, it is interesting to note that in the Annual Report of 1872—"The Medical Staff attributed the tardy healing in some instances, and for a few cases of rheumatism, to defective ventilation and insufficient means of warming the wards in cold weather." As a result it was decided to rebuild the Hospital.

An appeal for £20,000 was launched and an unsuccessful search for a new site in another part of London made the Committee decide, in 1877, to purchase the freehold property adjoining the Hospital. Here stand the well-known wards: Holgate Foster, E.N. Ward and Fournier Ward—all named after benefactors of the Hospital. The name "E.N." will always be a mystery; on November 11th, 1870, when the finances of the Hospital were in a sad way, a gift of £1,000 was received from "E.N." and "E.N." Ward it remains to this day.

In 1927 and 1928 further expansion took place including two wards (28 beds), a new Out-Patient Department, an

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