CONSTRUCTION NOTES.

Tooting Fever Hospital.

The architect for this new fever hospital was Mr. Aldwinckle. The ground being bought by the Metropolitan Asylums Board consists of 32 acres. This site is divided by Grove Road into two unequal portions, on one of which, comprising about ten acres, the temporary hospital is now being erected. The larger portion is reserved for the permanent structure to be forthwith proceeded with. The building provides accommodation for 390 patients in the ordinary pavilion, besides sixteen beds in two isolation blocks. Room will be found for eighty nurses, maid servants, and fifteen male servants, as well as for officers. When we consider the stores, the kitchens, the wash-houses, and laundries, the heating, the engines, the disinfecting arrangements, the supply of gas, water, and steam, the complete system of drainage, with manholes, ventilating traps, and flushing tanks, for the whole of this ten acres of land and buildings, we then begin to appreciate the greatness of this undertaking. The mode of construction is practically the same for all the building. Each pavilion consists of a large ward, 26 ft. by 144 ft., for twenty-four patients, a small ward with one bed only, a nurses' duty-room containing a small range and a well-ventilated meat safe for provisions, bath-room, linen store-room, and two water-closets for patients. In each large ward there are four open ventilation grates placed in pairs back to back, each connected with the open air by a nine-inch drain-pipe; under every bed is a direct opening to the outer air. The hospital is intended for the treatment of only one disease—scarlet fever. A series of isolation wards in which doubtful cases may wait for maturity is also incorporated in the scheme. A large recreation-room will be provided for the nurses.

EDITOR'S LETTER-BOX.

[Our correspondents are reminded that proximity is a great bar to publication, and that brevity of style and conciseness of statement greatly facilitate early insertion.]

MIDWIVES' REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION.

DEAR SIR,—We beg to call your attention to the above Association, which has been formed in order to obtain a practical solution of what is known as the "Midwives' Question." The want of a society specially devoted to this object has been much felt all through the agitation which has been going on intermittently for more than twenty years. The formation of this association has, therefore, been welcomed by those who rightly appreciate the importance of the question.

Since two Select Committees of the House of Commons have recently reported in favour of an Act to render compulsory the registration of midwives, such an association has been still more needed in order that medical practitioners may be recognised as the proper persons to undertake the duties of examining midwives, and of supervising them in their practice.

Our association, therefore, solicits the co-operation of all those members of the profession who agree that legislation is required, and who think, if desirable, that the medical profession should have a voice in the matter.

An Executive Committee, consisting of both general practitioners and consultants, has been appointed, and is at present engaged in considering questions raised by the prospect of legislation. Medical societies interested in the matter are represented on this committee by duly-appointed delegates.

We shall feel greatly obliged to medical practitioners in any part of the country who will furnish us with local information bearing on the question.

We append copies of papers now in circulation.—We are, dear Sir, yours truly,

ROBERT BOXALL, M.D.,
29, Weymouth Street, W.
ROWLAND HUMPHREYS,
27, Fellows Road, N.W.

Hon. Secs.

SCRAPS AND GLEANINGS.

THE Northampton Hospital Week Fund Committee has handed over to the funds of that institution the sum of £200.

THE new north wing of the Staffordshire General Infirmary at Stafford was recently thrown open on its completion to the inspection of the public.

MR. GRAHAM VIVIAN has sent £14 15s. to the Swansea Hospital for the purpose of supplying the serious want of an operating table for that institution.

DURING the past year London drew no less than five and a-half millions for charity, about £800,000 being devoted to contributions to hospitals and dispensaries.

THE authorities of the Bristol Dispensary have arranged to send a few convalescent patients requiring a change to the Sanatorium Home at Weston-super-Mare.

THE total amount raised so far in connection with the monument to be erected in Paris to the memory of the late Dr. J. M. Charcot has reached the sum of 197,505 francs.

A DEPUTATION to protest against the site selected for the Epsom and Sutton Joint Hospital recently waited on a meeting held by the members of the combined Infectious Diseases Hospital Board.

THE latest absurdity of the Russian craze in Paris is the gift of a French woman calling herself "A Friend of the People," who has sent 3,000 smelling bottles to the women's hospitals in Paris.

THE Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, E.C., has just received a donation of £500 from a lady who takes a keen interest in the work of the institution, but does not wish her name to be known.

A MEETING of the joint committee of members of the Redcar, Kirkcaldham, and Saltburn local boards was held recently to determine the question of providing a joint hospital for the said local board districts.

THE question of a new hospital is being mooted at Paisley. The directors of the infirmary state that they are prepared to consider either an extension is required of existing buildings or a new and enlarged institution.

MR. HOPE MORLEY, hon. treasurer of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, has sent £100 as a "New Year's gift" for that institution. A further sum of £500 has been sent to this hospital by an ex-governor.

LAST month £3,000 still remained to be raised to meet the deficiency on the fabric of the building of the Southport Infirmary. Towards the sum of £17,400 required for completing the buildings, only £14,000 has been subscribed so far.

THE annual meeting of the subscribers of the Alexandra Bromo-Iodine Hospital, Woodhall Spa, was recently held at Lincoln. There have been admitted to this institution 120 patients during the year. Annual subscriptions amounted to £222.

THE Queen has sent gifts of old linen to St. George's Hospital, the London Hospital, and the Cancer Hospital (free), Brompton, and game and linen to Charing Cross Hospital and the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, for the use of the inmates.

ONE of the most valuable additions, which have ever been made to the Agassiz Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, is a collection of 3,000 birds. The collection was made by Mr. W. E. D. Scott, from the United States and from the West Indies.

DR. LEVI C. LANE, of San Francisco, has presented to the city of San Francisco a large building with two wings, each two stories high, which he has had built for a fully-equipped hospital, to be used as an annex to the Cooper Medical College of that city.

THE nineteenth annual general meeting of the Holmesdale Cottage Hospital reported that the work of this institution has been carried on steadily and efficiently during the past year. The accounts, unfortunately, for the year show a slight decrease of income.

IT is to be hoped that increased subscriptions will soon be coming in for the proposed cottage hospital at Wood Green. Mr. Passmore Edwards' munificent contribution of £2,000 towards this scheme should establish a precedent for further supplies in support of this much needed project.

LORD CADOGAN, in presenting an appeal for the funds of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, states that 600 in-patients and 13,000 out-patients are annually relieved by this charity. The convalescent home at St. Leonards-on-Sea in connection with it is doing a work of real value and importance.

THE Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire has given the munificent donation of £1,000 towards the funds of Addenbrooke's Hospital at Cambridge.

THE working men of Swansea are setting a good example to other districts, in the meritorious manner in which they are contributing towards the Swansea Hospital.

THE petition which has been presented to the Local Government Board of Canterbury by the residents of the town urges that the site selected for the proposed infectious diseases hospital is wholly unsuitable. The piece of land selected immediately adjoins the infirmary attached to the Canterbury Union, and has further serious disadvantages.

IN the city of St. Louis, America, it is intended to organise a street railway ambulance, which will run at stated and known hours to convey more quickly than would otherwise be possible, patients to the various hospitals. Possibly the idea might be applied to our Metropolitan railways, where ordinary cab conveyance would not be suitable.

THE kindly thought shown by the family of the late Sir Andrew Clark, might establish a precedent well worth following on many a similar occasion. After his funeral many of the beautiful flowers sent in his memory by friends were sent to the wards of the London Hospital, where after having honoured the dead, they gave great pleasure to the sick whom he lived to help.

THE London and North-Western Railway Company have offered to give a site for the erection of a cottage hospital near the Queen's Park, Crewe, which the company gave to the town in the Jubilee year.

IN view of this object, Mr. F. W. Webb, chief mechanical engineer at Crewe, has contributed £1,000 towards the erection of the buildings, and two further sums of £1,000 each are promised. The trustees of the late Alderman Heath have decided to give £650 to the same project.