

THE ROYAL LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL—SOME HISTORIC FACTS

This Hospital was founded as long ago as 1849 "to demonstrate by the treatment of the sick poor the principles and practice of Homœopathy".

Dr. Frederick Foster Hervey Quin was the first English doctor to practise Homœopathy in this country in 1828, and it is to him and the keen practitioners who soon joined him that the Hospital owes its origin.

It had a small beginning, twenty-five beds, in a building in Golden Square and it was there that such an important part was played in the successful treatment of cholera cases during the serious epidemic of 1854. The Hospital moved to its present site in Great Ormond Street in 1859, where it opened with fifty beds. To quote from a recent report of the Hospital.

"In this adapted building in Great Ormond Street, the Hospital had for thirty-six years a career of success sufficiently shown by the increase of its patients and its funds. Its record during that period is the record of any General Hospital. What its work was may be judged from the fact that within its walls no less than 275,083 patients were treated".

On the 23rd of June, 1893, the foundation stone of the present building was laid. The completed Hospital was opened by H.R.H. The Duchess of Teck in July, 1895. Since then the building has been greatly extended, especially by the generosity of Sir Henry Tyler, who was responsible for the addition of the Sir Henry Tyler Wing in Queen Square.

In 1909 a site was secured opposite the main building on which a Nurses' Home was erected. An extension to it was added in 1931 and opened by H.R.H. The Duchess of York. The Home contained besides 99 bedrooms, lecture and practical demonstration rooms.

Further improvements to the main Hospital building have been carried out over the years and include an extension to the Casualty Department which was opened by the Mayor of Holborn in October, 1936.

Since 1920 when H.R.H. The Duke of York became Patron, the Hospital has enjoyed the honour and distinction of Royal Patronage, and today Her Majesty the Queen is the Patron and H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester the President. In 1948 by command of King George VI the prefix Royal was added to its title.

During the 1914-18 War the Hospital was placed at the service of the Admiralty and over 2,000 sick and wounded sailors were treated there from October, 1915, to November, 1919. In the second world war the Hospital took an active part in the Emergency Hospital Service for the treatment of Air Raid casualties. Unfortunately, the Hospital buildings were severely damaged by enemy bombing, and because of this a Hospital unit with 35 beds was established at Coombe Woodhouse, Kingston Hill, where it remained from 1942 for four years.

In 1948 the National Health Service was inaugurated, and the Hospital was graded as a single group with its own Committee of Management.

The Hospital is approved by the General Nursing Council as a Training School for Nurses and is the Registered Address for the Faculty of Homœopathy.

The centenary of the foundation of the Hospital was celebrated in 1949 and many distinguished headed by T.R.H. The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester attended a reception given in the Great Council Chamber of the British Medical Association.

There is no doubt that the Hospital has shown consistent progress throughout its career and it is now the aim of the Management Committee "to maintain the Hospital as an integral and efficient unit in the National Health Service, and to discharge the trust and obligation placed upon it by the Hospital's generous founders and benefactors by safeguarding its primary function as a homœopathic institution and extending the benefits of Homœopathy."

In order that the Hospital shall function as efficiently as possible as primarily a homœopathic institution it must be recognized by the Medical Teaching Authorities as a Post Graduate Medical School for the teaching of Homœopathy. This is the most important aim of the Hahnemann Society.

—*The Layman Speaks, Sept., '60*

HOMŒOPATHY DURING THE MENOPAUSE

(Continued from page 412)

chocolates to nibble as one reads; no milk; not too rich and heavy fats or starches.

The menopause, in short, can be coped with blithely and gracefully. It should be a time of freedom, leisure, mellow wisdom and enduring health. Under Homœopathy life can begin at 60!

—*Jourl. of the Am. Inst. of Homœopathy, March-April, '60*
