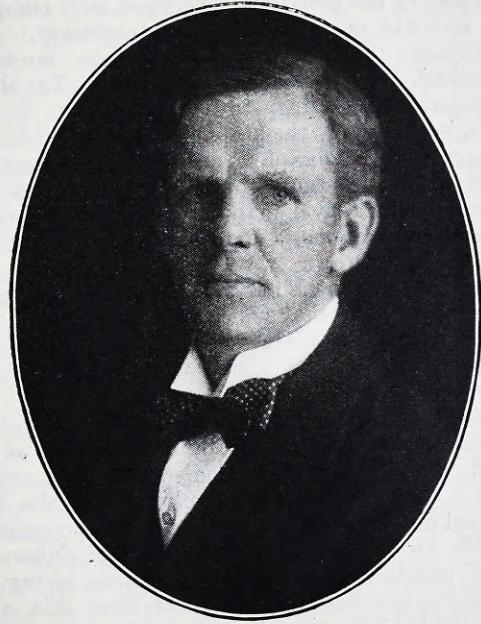


LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE.

Mr. R. W. Harris, who retired from the office of Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Health in February, 1922, has been appointed Secretary of the



[Elliott and Fry.

MR. R. W. HARRIS, SECRETARY OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE.

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. The Director of the School is Dr. Andrew Balfour, C.B., C.M.G., and an article on the scope of the work of the School, which is not yet built, appeared in our last issue. Mr. Harris has been for the past two years a regular contributor to the HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REVIEW.

PRINCE TAFARI VISITS ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

During the stay in London of H.I.H. Tafari Makonnen, heir to the throne of Abyssinia and, it is claimed, a descendant of the Queen of Sheba and King Solomon, St. Thomas's Hospital was honoured with a royal visit. Whilst the arrangements for his stay in England were being made the Prince expressed a wish to visit St. Thomas's Hospital in order to see the panels in tiles, illustrating the stories of Little Jack Horner and Old King Cole, of which he had been told by his father who gave them to the hospital twenty years ago. The Prince with his suite was met at the hospital by Sir Arthur Stanley, the treasurer, Mr. G. Q. Roberts, the secretary, who had taken round the late Emperor of Abyssinia on the occasion of his visit, and Miss Still, the matron. They visited first the out-patients' department and two wards for adults, then they passed on to the children's ward where the nursery-rhyme panels are. When told, on inquiring, that the panels had cost his father £100 he said that, as money value is so much less now, he would give £300. This will be

used to build a balcony outside one of the children's wards.

As the Prince wished to see the operating theatre, he was taken there next and presented to the senior surgeon, Sir Cuthbert Wallace, who was at that time performing an operation for the removal of glands from a patient's neck. The Prince showed an eager interest in the operation and wished to see one from the beginning, but his suite, with handkerchiefs to their noses, found the smell of the anaesthetic so overpowering that one of them had to be taken out lest he should faint. From the theatre the visitors went on to one of the orthopaedic wards where a number of patients were receiving sun treatment. While there he asked to be taken to see the disease and germ specimens preserved in spirits, and the morning ended with a visit to the museum of surgical pathology. Before leaving a ward H.I.H. always asked the sister-in-charge to express his sympathy to each patient. As he drove away he was loudly cheered by a party of students, an acclamation which appeared to please him greatly.

LORD DAWSON ON THE MODEL HOSPITAL.

On July 16 Lord Dawson of Penn addressed a large number of West of England doctors who were paying a visit to the Forbes Fraser Hospital, Combe Park, Bath. This was formerly known as the Royal United Hospital and was visited recently by the Duke of Connaught. Lord Dawson spoke of the attributes which gave Combe Park its distinction, and spoke first of the adequate ground accommodation. If there was one condition which needed to be driven home more than another, it was that any hospital of to-day, especially a newly constructed hospital, should be erected outside a town, away from the hustle and din of life. A further attribute of a building like that, which its founders had been wise enough to think about, was cost. Those simple buildings answered their purpose well.

By adopting that plan of construction, they got a hospital at something like half the cost of the flexible hospitals to be found in the bigger towns. It was probably less than that. The cost of that hospital worked out upon construction about £500 a bed, and they would not get a hospital on the many-storeyed system under from £1,000 to £1,200 per bed. There was the further advantage that it could be scrapped, modified or altered quite easily, whereas the hospital which was constructed on the older lines had to stand for at least a generation before anybody felt justified in interfering with it. So not only did we get cheaper construction, but greater flexibility. Turning to another aspect, which he termed the more professional aspect of the hospital problem, Lord Dawson said that scheme had among its aims the bringing of the doctors of Bath and district into closer contact with hospital life. They had passed from the realm of individual labour into the realm of team work, which meant they must have fabric and organisation to that end for their different departments, side by side. There was no doubt in his mind that illnesses would in future be much more often treated in institutions like that than they would be in the homes of patients.