

New Accident Hospital at Garston.

The finance committee of the city council has had under consideration the advisability of giving financial aid towards the erection of a hospital at Garston, the most southern district of the municipality. A special subcommittee has made a report to the effect that an offer be made, without admitting liability, to the committee of the proposed accident and emergency hospital at Garston and district to contribute £5000 towards the erection of this hospital. The original proposal of the finance committee was to grant a sum of £4000, but by the casting vote of the chairman the increased amount of £5000 was carried.

Jan. 24th.

WALES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Cardiff Water-supply.

THE heavy rainfall of last year has increased the amount of water in the Cardiff reservoirs very considerably. The average rainfall for the past 26 years on the gathering grounds which serve the Brecknockshire reservoirs was 79 inches, and in 1910 it was 92 inches. The amount of water now in store in the corporation reservoirs is equal to about five months consumption, based upon an average per head daily of 27 gallons. In spite of this satisfactory condition and in view of the anticipated growth of the borough the corporation has begun the construction of the third and last reservoir in Brecknockshire. It is expected that the completion of the undertaking will not be attained until about six years hence, when there will be a total storage capacity of 2265 million gallons.

Scarcity of Houses in Swansea.

It was anticipated that the exhibition of workmen's dwellings, erected on land owned by the Swansea corporation, which was held last year, would have led to the erection by private enterprise of an increasing number of working-class dwellings. This anticipation has not been altogether realised, though the corporation has decided to add to the number of cottages it already possesses by erecting several hundred more. The scarcity of such dwellings is indicated by the statement of the corporation rent-collector that for one empty house he had received 98 applications and that 560 persons had applied for some of the new houses.

Swansea Hospital.

The board of management of the Swansea Hospital has decided to appoint a fourth out-patient medical officer and to create a new appointment of assistant ophthalmic surgeon. To the latter position Mr. H. E. Quick, a former house surgeon of the hospital, has been elected. A proposal has been made that the hospital management and the corporation should coöperate in the establishment of a pathological and bacteriological department, and that in association with it the vaccine-therapy department of the hospital should be carried on under the supervision of an honorary medical officer.

Jan. 24th.

SCOTLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women.

At the Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women, in which the lecturers are recognised as giving qualifying courses for graduation in the University of Edinburgh, 74 students have been enrolled during the winter. Of these, 64 are working with a view to University graduation and 9 for the triple qualification.

Annual Report of Chalmers' Hospital, Edinburgh.

At the anniversary meeting of the Faculty of Advocates, held on Jan. 18th, the directors of the Chalmers' Hospital reported that the number of patients treated during the year was 602 in all—373 of those having been treated in the free wards and 229 in the private wards, paying board. Of the 602 cases, 345 were surgical and 257 medical. Operations numbered 380. The out-patients numbered 3214, of whom 2835 were surgical and 379 medical. Operations under general anaesthesia in the out-patient department numbered

188 and dressings 17,236. The ordinary income for the year amounted to £4073 7s. 9d. and the ordinary expenditure to £3564 7s. 9d., leaving a surplus of £508 10s. 3d. This surplus, increased by the accumulated surpluses of previous years, amounts to £1473 5s. 3d. The directors are considering alterations and extensions to the accommodation of the hospital, but could not yet submit any definite scheme to the Faculty. A lady, who wished to remain anonymous, has offered to defray the cost of erecting a covered verandah outside the female private ward. The offer has been accepted, and the verandah, which cost £200, has proved a great boon to convalescent patients.

School for Cripple and Invalid Children in Edinburgh.

The Edinburgh school board has recently purchased three small villas in Duncan-street and South Gray-street which are to be used as schools for mentally deficient and cripple and invalid children. One of the houses has already been altered and is in use as a school for mentally deficient children, and warrant was granted this week by the Dean of Guild Court to make alterations in the other two. Accommodation for cripple children will be on the ground floor, and will consist of three class-rooms, each holding classes of 20, a large dining-room, and a new entrance hall. On the upper storey there will be class-room accommodation for invalid children and a large hall. On the south side of the building there will be large verandahs where classes will be taught in fine weather, and on to which the class-rooms will open by means of folding doors. Hot-water pipes will be used for supplementary heating, but the class-rooms will be provided with open fire-places.

Appointments in the University of Edinburgh.

Dr. A. H. F. Barbour has been reappointed Lecturer on Gynaecology, and Mr. J. W. Dowden has been appointed an Examiner in Surgery and Practical Surgery.

Epidemic of Diphtheria in Arbroath.

An epidemic of diphtheria has broken out in Arbroath and district. Since the middle of December 49 cases have been admitted to the hospital.

Medical Inspection of School Children in Aberdeen.

In connexion with the question of treating and cleaning verminous school children the public health committee of the Aberdeen town council has now presented its report. It will be remembered that the communications from the school board requesting the coöperation and assistance of the sanitary authority in this matter were remitted by the council to the public health committee. The committee is of opinion that the town council should coöperate with the board in any practicable measures suggested for the purpose. It recognises that the presence of body vermin in a family is nearly always associated with a lack of personal cleanliness, and indeed with cases that would justify active interference by the public health department. The committee is not sanguine that permanent results will follow from any system of dealing with the verminous condition until a higher standard of cleanliness is reached in the affected households, and it is therefore disposed to believe that the most valuable effect from any measures that might be taken would be the stimulation of a stronger sense of cleanliness. It believes that, except in the case of parents who are altogether lost to a sense of shame in having their children sent home from school as filthy and verminous, the work of the medical inspectors of the board will probably in course of time appreciably raise the standard of family cleanliness, and thereby lead to a corresponding decrease in vermin. It is satisfied that the public health department has so far done all that can be done in present circumstances, and has indeed attempted more than in almost any other town regarding which it has information. Without venturing on an opinion as to what degree of permanent benefit may result from the application of radical measures in a large proportion of the cases of verminous households, the subcommittee recommends that as soon and as far as may be practicable a combined effort by the school board and the town council should be made to bring such measures into operation and to give them a fair trial. The annual cost of carrying out the proposal would amount to about £655, which would be borne by the town council and school board equally. If special premises have to be erected for dealing with verminous persons the total annual cost would be increased to not less