

Manchester.

NEW HULME HALL OF RESIDENCE FOR STUDENTS.

THERE can be no doubt of the advantages accruing to the students of a university situated in a great commercial and industrial centre such as Manchester by the establishment of halls of residence both for men and women students. There are two residential halls for men and two for women associated with the University of Manchester. Some time ago a scheme was sanctioned by the Charity Commissioners for a new building for Hulme Hall, which was formerly situated in Plymouth Grove. A hall of residence for students was first opened in Manchester in 1870, the Hulme Hall just vacated was opened in 1887, and now we have its successor. The old building was not all that could be desired; now, thanks to the aid, financial and other, and the enthusiasm of Sir William Houldsworth and others, a magnificent hall, providing every accommodation for forty students, was opened on July 5th. The total cost has been about £21,000, of which £18,000 has been raised. The hall is beautifully situated in Victoria Park, and is in close proximity to the University, the new Royal Infirmary, the Eye Hospital, and St. Mary's Hospital. Sufficient space has been acquired to enable the governors, when the necessary funds are raised, to erect accommodation for sixty students. The hall, as regards endowment, will receive some benefit under the new scheme recently agreed upon between the Hulme Hall governors and Brasenose College, Oxford; it was sanctioned by the Charity Commissioners. It is now awaiting the approval of the House of Lords.

THE MILK SUPPLY OF MANCHESTER.

The contamination of the milk supplied to Manchester has recently been the subject of special inquiry by the *Evening Chronicle*. A large number of farms in Derbyshire and Cheshire have been visited, and in many cases the state of affairs was found to be most alarming. Unhealthy, tuberculous cows with udders caked with excrement, insanitary shippens reeking with ammonia, badly lighted, and kept shut up from an idea that the cows must be warm, cowsheds with brick floors never washed from year's end to year's end and only half drained, milk cans never scalded out but merely rinsed with dirty well-water, milkmen who went straight to the milking from moving manure which lay in heaps close to the shippen doors—such are some of the abominations revealed. Confirmation has been forthcoming from Dr. Serjeant, Medical Officer to the Lancashire County Council, who stated that the condition of cow-houses with which he had acquaintance was no better than it was thirty years ago. Can there be any wonder that Professor Delépine has found that some of the milk injected into guinea-pigs quickly killed them? Place these facts side by side with the fact that more and more children are being bottle-fed, and there need be no surprise at the terrible infant mortality of Manchester. If only half the revelations be true the facts are a disgrace to civilization, and one hardly knows who deserves the greatest censure—the farmers who supply such milk or the sanitary authorities who allow them to do so. As a commentary on this, it was stated in the Liverpool City Council on July 3rd that in the three years since sterilized-milk dépôts had been established in the city the infant death-rate had gone down 17 per 1,000.

"SIXPENNY DOCTORS."

The increase in the number of "sixpenny doctors" in Manchester of late years has been undoubtedly favoured by the fact that so many of the hospitals, with only a pretence of an inquiry into patients' circumstances, accept small donations of about sixpence or make a small charge for medicines. Patients then think that they are paying full value for what they receive, and cannot understand why they should pay any more to the general practitioner. No less than three societies—the Medical Guild, the Medico-Ethical Association, and the North Manchester Medical Union—have recently passed resolutions to the effect "that sixpenny doctors ought not to be recognized professionally nor be met in consultation." As far as can be gathered, the large majority of the consultants are inclined to adhere loyally to these resolutions, though it is somewhat surprising to find one

or two exceptions who openly defy the societies. The feeling, however, is so strong, that this attitude is likely to prove a short-sighted policy.

CONVALESCENT HOME AT PENMAENMAWR.

On Saturday, June 29th, the Lord Mayor of Manchester formally opened at Penmaenmawr a new convalescent home for patients from Manchester and Salford. The building will accommodate about 50 convalescents, and it is intended to be self-supporting. The Lord Mayor said that it will belong to the workpeople themselves, and will be entirely controlled and managed by them; by paying 1d. a week any man is entitled, after subscribing for three months, to spend a fortnight or more there when convalescent from illness. An appeal was made for new members on business lines, it being stated that there is no element of charity in the concern. Over £9,000 had been already obtained by means of a grand bazaar for this and another similar home for women at Arnside. This is felt in Manchester to be a move in the right direction. It draws a sharp distinction between charitable and self-supporting institutions. One cannot help wondering why there should not be the same distinction drawn in the case of hospitals, for at the present time hospitals which are supposed to be charitable institutions have many of their beds occupied by paying patients, and in consequence it is no rare thing for urgent cases among the poorer non-paying patients to have to wait for a bed.

CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

Thanks to the Crippled Children's Help Society, the third annual motor-car outing given to these poor unfortunates was a great success. Through the kindness of their owners something like 130 motor cars were placed at the disposition of the Society, and over 500 crippled youngsters were given an outing to Chelford near Alderley Edge on Saturday last.

West Yorkshire.

THE MUNICIPALIZATION OF BRADFORD CHARITIES.

AN interesting article in the *Bradford Evening Telegraph* of June 18th drew attention to many points connected with this subject. It would require a rate of 3½d. to provide for the maintenance of the main charities of the city as at present carried on, no payment being made for the medical services rendered. It is considered that it would be necessary to raise a twopenny rate for the payment of the medical men connected with the various institutions. As 1d. in the £ on the Bradford rates at present produces £5,790, it will at once be seen how the medical profession assists by its services the causes of charity in the city.

PROPOSED LADY HEALTH VISITOR FOR KEIGHLEY.

At a meeting of the Keighley Town Council, held on July 2nd, a somewhat prolonged discussion took place on a recommendation from the Health Committee that a lady health visitor be advertised for at an annual salary of £80, the person appointed to be a trained nurse and certificated midwife, and to hold the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. The infantile death-rate in Keighley in 1906 was 149, and it was suggested that a lady qualified as suggested might do something to reduce it. It was pointed out by one or more of the speakers that some of the suggested visitor's duties infringed on the domain of the medical man, and on being put to the vote the motion was negatived by 9 to 6.

HALIFAX GUARDIANS.

Mr. Bagenal, one of the general inspectors of the Local Government Board, is reported to have made some indiscreet observations on medical matters at a meeting of the Halifax Board of Guardians held on July 3rd. In connexion with the difficulty that has arisen between the medical profession and the Halifax Board because the latter body will not pay the medical men adequately for services rendered, Mr. Bagenal is reported to have said:

The guardians had got a medical House of Lords in Halifax, and however much they might want to shift them he did not see how they were going to do it. The medical men had laid down the salaries the guardians had to pay, and, as far as he could see, they intended to carry that out. It was