

## LIVERPOOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

*The Re-housing Problem : Health of Liverpool.*

Mr. F. H. Tulloch, Local Government Board inspector, attended at the municipal offices on May 23rd to examine the Liverpool corporation's schemes for the erection of new artisans' dwellings in four Liverpool streets. Mr. Cripps, assistant solicitor to the corporation, explained that the schemes submitted were for fulfilling the obligations of the corporation under the several housing clauses and provisional orders. The policy of the corporation had been not to pull down any buildings before erecting others for the dispossessed tenants. Some houses were demolished in Christian-street without a scheme for re-housing being submitted to the Local Government Board. As this was an oversight, and although thereby the corporation was liable to considerable penalty, he asked the Board to exculpate it because a street improvement had been effected and there were plenty of vacant houses even at the present time in the half-mile radius. Out of 1720 dwellings built by the corporation 180 were vacant. A return prepared at the beginning of the year by the head constable showed 4293 vacant houses in the city, of which 1145 were houses of 5s. a week rent and under. This was to be explained by the fact that the electric tram system and cheap fares attracted the labouring class to reside in the suburbs. During the last four years over 2000 of the working-class houses had been built chiefly on the outskirts of the city. The corporation surveyor explained the character of the dwellings proposed to be built in the streets previously mentioned. Dr. A. A. Mussen, the assistant medical officer of health, gave a census return of the vacant houses in the localities in which the schemes were to be carried out. The remarkable fact was that during the past few years the number of common lodging-houses in the city had decreased by 50 per cent. The inspector will in due course report to the Local Government Board, who will decide on the number of dwellings to be erected to re-house dispossessed tenants.—During the past week 511 births and 240 deaths were registered in Liverpool, representing a birth-rate of 36·3 per 1000 and a mortality of 17 per 1000. In the corresponding week of last year the death-rate was 18·4 per 1000. Of 652 cases in the corporation infectious hospitals 488 patients were suffering from scarlet fever and seven from typhus fever. The chairman of the health committee referred at the meeting with satisfaction to the prevailing low death-rate.

*Winwick Asylum : Acute and Dangerous Types of Lunacy.*

A recommendation that a further sum, not exceeding £30,000, as may be necessary for extras and to complete the asylum buildings at Winwick should be granted out of the asylums fund was contained in the report of the finance committee and laid before the Lancashire Asylums Board at its meeting at Preston. Certain things were left out in connexion with the building operations which had to be done to make the building satisfactory to the committee. The chairman said that the whole cost of the asylum would be about £45,000, which did not appear to be excessive. A letter was read from the Commissioners in Lunacy with reference to allowing Winwick Asylum to be used for acute cases. It stated: "That having regard to the very large number of troublesome, turbulent, and dangerous cases that were found in the asylum at the annual visit in February last, the Commissioners felt unable to withstand any longer the wishes of the board that the asylum should not any longer be reserved for chronic cases." In connexion with this matter the chairman said that it had been agreed that it would be desirable to build an asylum on the villa system and on a cheaper scale something like a workhouse, where chronic cases who were unable to take care of themselves and who were unable to work but did not require the same skilled medical care as acute cases which went to the asylums, should be lodged. It was for the board to consider whether it could not devise a scheme for building a cheaper class of asylum where such patients could be maintained at a much less cost to the ratepayers. Eventually a motion was carried to the effect—

That as the restriction as to the using of Winwick Asylum for chronic cases only has now been removed it will be desirable to consider the advisability of utilising the proposed site at Whalley for an

asylum of cheap construction to accommodate cases other than of the acute and dangerous types.

It was also decided to empower the Whalley committee to communicate with the various boards of guardians on the subject.

*Hospital Saturday Fund.*

The honorary treasurer has issued the first list of the contributions from the employés of a number of workshops, &c., to the Hospital Saturday Fund, which amounted to £5390 6s. 7d. The second list will be published on July 3rd.

May 30th.

## LEEDS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

*The University of Leeds : Commemoration of the Inauguration.*

By request of the council of the University of Leeds a special number of the *Gryphon*, which is the journal of the University, has been issued in commemoration of the inauguration which took place last October. The special committee which was charged with the responsibility of editorship is to be congratulated on having produced what all will regard as a worthy memorial of a great and important event. In the letterpress we find the address of the Chancellor, Lord Ripon, at the first meeting of the University Court which lays down a high ideal of the work which should be aimed at; following this is a brief account of the first congregation, on which occasion the first honorary degrees were conferred, and the orations delivered by those presenting the graduates are given in abstract. The speech of the Duke of Devonshire, though, as His Grace remarked, "to some extent a departure from the ordinary course of academic procedure," deserves to be given in full as it is. From this speech I quote the following passages: "I observe that in your new constitution as defined by your charter and your statutes a remarkable and exceptional share of the government of this University has been entrusted to the representatives of local authorities in Yorkshire. I believe that in this a wise course has been taken, because it is of the first importance that from the outset a wide popular interest should be taken in the studies and work of this infant University. And I am at the same time sure that the good common-sense which distinguishes Yorkshiremen will lead them to entrust a great share of the direction of the studies and work of this University to those who have qualified themselves for that direction by educational work. I feel sure that they will not desire that the training to be given here shall be of too exclusively a utilitarian character." A brief paper by Professor Miall on the beginnings of the Yorkshire College reminds us that in 1868 a circular was issued by the Yorkshire Council of Education announcing that a college of science was projected. The three first professors were Rücker, Thorpe, and Green. "Such men as these," says Professor Miall, "would make any place of learning thrive." In 1878 the addition of arts professors was followed by a change of name and the Yorkshire College was inaugurated. The Leeds School of Medicine, founded by William Hey in 1831 and for many years a flourishing institution, was in 1884 amalgamated with the college, which was soon afterwards incorporated with the Victoria University. From the pen of Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse, one of the honorary graduates, we have a short paper on medical student life in Leeds 60 years ago. It may be the case that, as he quotes as a heading for his reminiscences, "*Tempora mutantur, nos et mutamur in illis*," but Mr. Wheelhouse seems to possess the secret of preserving a youthfulness of mind which must be the envy of all. When we read that Mr. Wheelhouse could "fill a volume with memories of those happy and pleasant days" we must echo the feelings of all who know him when we say, "*Cur non?*" Illustrated as it is by views of the University buildings, including, of course, the medical school, and by reproductions of photographs of the chancellor, pro-chancellor, vice-chancellor, dean of the Faculty of Medicine, honorary graduates, members of the Senate, and others, this special number will appeal to all former students of the college and to all who are interested in the future of the University. Succeeding the title page is the following poem from the pen of Mr. Alfred Austin, in whom, as the vice-chancellor said when presenting him for the degree of LL.D., "we delight