NEED FOR A WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

Medical science is being applied more intensively and more elaborately to the conditions and diseases of women, and, after childbirth than to any other branch of medicine or surgery. There have been advances in the past 20 years in the technique of obstetric operations, and in the realization of the importance of proper nursing, but there has been no diminution in the infant and maternal mortality. In the field of medicine and surgery, there has been much progress.

Professor Watson, of the Edinburgh University, accounts for this extraordinary increase under two heads—one, that the medical profession is not putting established theories into practice, probably owing to inadequate training of medical students in these subjects; and, two, because funds are not being provided for better and better maternity hospitals for pre-natal care and for the supply of proper equipment for childbirth in the homes of the poor.

Precisely the same causes are operating in Adelaide, only in a far more aggravated form. If the training in Adelaide, with its obstetrical hospital, is inadequate, what must it be in Adelaide, where there are institutions—except the Queen's—where two to 40 nurses in training at one time are treated? There are no children at the University of and does it apply to attend 20 cases, it leaves only a small margin for the medical students of the University, who must also attend no cases. There are 25 medical students at the University, and it is becoming imperative to meet the conditions imposed, especially as the obstetrical cases in the Adelaide Hospital average only about a year.

In these cases, how can prenatal examinations, safe childbirth, and postnatal care be expected? They are not possible. In the safeguarding of infant life and the proper production of a viable race, which is imperative in these days of decreasing birth rates. To correct these shortcomings something might be done by establishing an obstetrical department at the Adelaide Hospital. Professor Watson advocates the linking up of the maternity hospital with the general hospital. He says that the importance of training students being recognized all over the world. The obstetrical department could be established in connection with the existing gynecological department in the Adelaide Hospital, forming a Women's Block, in which both nurses and students could secure the training which is necessary, not only to enable them to pass their examinations, but to afford them sufficient equipment to administer the highest standard of treatment. It is estimated that it would be necessary to provide an outpatient room for prenatal and postnatal cases, an observation ward, a maternity ward, an operating theater, accommodation for septic cases, and an external department for the treatment of maternal patients in their own homes.

Nothing but good could flow from such an outlay.

Medical science in maternity cases is making remarkable progress and no money and no effort should be spared to apply its teaching. It offers a worthy and thrilling field for public generosity and State assistance, and the need for it is exceedingly urgent.

HOSPITAL EXPANSION

The string quartet from the Elder Conservatorium will give a recital in the federal Union Hall tomorrow afternoon at 4:30. The quartet will consist of Miss E. S. Bostock, Miss E. S. Bostock, Miss E. S. Bostock, Miss E. S. Bostock, and Mr. H. J. Leslie. The program will consist of a concert of music by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Tchaikovsky.

More Land Wanted

The Board of Commissioners has been informed by the Government Intelligence Service that there is a considerable demand for land in the western districts of South Australia. The Board is prepared to purchase land in the western districts for the purpose of establishing agricultural colonies. The land is available in large tracts, and the Government is willing to sell it at a nominal price.

Organ Recitals

With the approval of the Council of the Elder Conservatorium, Dr. E. Harold Davis (director of the Elder Conservatorium) has arranged for two free mid-week organ recitals to be given in the Elder Conservatorium. The first recital will be on Thursday, March 10th, at 8:00 p.m.