

WS
28
AM4
B7FG

✓

Shall the Boston Floating Hospital Go Out of Commission? ???



THE good people of our city and of New England must answer this question. Without any special effort,—rather, in spite of it,—the work of the hospital, which is now in its second decade, has grown to such proportions that the present boat is unable to meet the demands made upon it. Last year, though the summer was exceptionally cool, we had a waiting list of permanent patients the larger part of the season, and were compelled to keep the work open till the middle of September. The plans for the new boat have been drawn, and the keel should be laid by August 1, 1903.

This work has a broad field for its operation. While most of the patients come from Boston

and vicinity, some are brought from cities and towns at a distance. Other hospitals are readily availing themselves of the peculiar benefits the Floating Hospital offers for the treatment of children in the summer season.

Our records show that 231 different physicians sent patients to us during the season of 1902. This fact indicates how our work is valued by the medical profession.

While a large part of our annual expense has been of benefit to medical science, and therefore of value to sick babies outside of Massachusetts, moneyed people away from New England insist that it is a local charity which Boston ought to support. Armed with letters from some of our leading public men, several of the philanthropists away from New England have been approached and urged to contribute, but they are giving in other directions. The value of the serum which Dr. Flexner claims to have discovered can be determined largely by investigations made at our hospital this summer. The doctor designs send-

ing out thirty students to test his discovery in children's summer hospitals. The managers make this appeal with somewhat of anxiety lest givers for the current expense divide their contributions. It should be explicitly stated that the more imperative of the two demands just now is for the expense of the summer's work. If we could have but one series of contributions it should be limited to this call for the work of the coming season; but the needs of a new boat are so imperative that specific gifts for this object are urgently solicited.

For the managers,

RUFUS B. TOBEY,

Chairman.



The Boston Floating Hospital.

Organized July 1, 1894.

Incorporated Sept. 23, 1901

Managers:

RUFUS B. TOBEY, *Chairman*

CHAS. G. FARWELL, *Treas. and Business Mgr.*

178 Devonshire St.

S. H. DURGIN, M.D., *Chairman Board of Health, Boston.*

SAMUEL BRECK, M.D., *362 Commonwealth Ave., Boston.*

ROBERT W. HASTINGS, M.D., *Brookline.*

PROF. S. H. WOODBRIDGE, *Institute of Technology.*

FREDERIC H. CURTISS, *Cashier Mass. Nat. Bank, Boston.*

CHAS. W. JAYNES, *Jaynes & Co., Druggists, Boston.*

JOHN R. ANDERSON, *Asst. Manager,*

178 Devonshire St.

There would be an unrivalled opportunity in The Boston Floating Hospital with a new and larger boat:—

- 1st. To determine the exact cause of the summer diarrhœa of infancy, working along the same line as The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.
- 2d. To prove the value of fresh air to babies and children, especially when sick.
- 3d. To determine the best form of food in various forms of infantile diseases, especially summer diarrhœa.
- 4th. To determine the most rapid and successful method of treatment for these diseases.
- 5th. To determine whether pure fresh milk free from germs *can* be given to babies, and how this is possible.
- 6th. To study all pathological conditions of blood and viscera as disclosed by ante-mortem and post-mortem study.
- 7th. To train young physicians and graduate nurses in the care and treatment of sick babies.
- 8th. To instruct mothers of sick children how to care for their babies, what to feed them, etc.

ROBERT W. HASTINGS, M.D.,

Resident Physician.

BOSTON, March, 1903.

