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EDITORIAL.

THE NEW GENERAL HOSPITAL.

We have nothing but praise for every effort that will improve the hospital accommodation of Toronto, or any other city. The hospitals of Canada are one of her greatest assets. In these institutions thousands of our citizens are treated annually. These institutions are the means of gathering wealth and securing for our cities institutions that we are all proud of.

Hospitals come high both to build and maintain. The modern treatment of patients has added very much to the cost of caring for them. The buildings must be airy, sanitary, properly heated, with suitable sites, and they should be fire-proof. Then the nursing and feeding must be in keeping with what is known to be the proper methods.

Three years ago, a movement was set on foot for the erection of a new General Hospital. Aid was sought from the Ontario Government, from the city of Toronto, and from wealthy citizens. The Government and University on that occasion gave \$300,000, and the city \$200,000, and private donors about \$1,100,000.

As the trustees went on in their work, it was found that the site cost \$600,000 and the building and equipment \$1,900,000, making a grand total of \$2,500,000. The hospital trustees applied again to the university, and an arrangement was entered into whereby the university gives \$300,000 more for certain uses of portions of the hospital site. This brought the total resources up to about \$1,900,000.

The hospital trustees then approached the Toronto Board of Control and Council for another grant of \$200,000, as an aid towards the final completion of the sum required. There will still be required about \$400,000, which of course must be raised from private donations, or by debentures, or by the sale of some of the property belonging to the hospital trust in various parts of the city. Within the past few days Mr. J. C. Eaton gave \$250,000.

When the hospital is completed, it will average about \$5,000 per bed, as we gather that there will be about 500 beds in the institution. This does appear to us as too high, and some effort ought to be made to cut out all unnecessary detail. Hospitals should be very plain.