

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

WHEN the vote in the estimates for universities and colleges is reached Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS intends to call attention to the circumstances under which King's College, being a denominational institution, became the recipient of a Parliamentary grant of £1,700 a year.

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ON Monday last a new wing of Poplar Hospital was opened by Lord and Lady KNUTSFORD. The addition to the resources of this useful institution was necessitated by the long-felt want of further accommodation for the numerous applicants for relief in the populous neighbourhood in which the Hospital is situated. By this wing 160 beds will be placed at the disposal of the governors, and their liability would have been increased by the expenditure of the sum of £22,000 had not the liberality of the friends of the institution reduced that amount to £2,000. Mr. A. F. HILLS presided at the opening ceremony, and congratulatory addresses were made by the senior hon. surgeon, Mr. CORNER, and by other gentlemen interested in the progress and work of the Hospital.

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ON the 4th inst. a deputation from the International Bakeries Union waited upon the Chief Rabbi (Dr. ADLER) to bring under his notice the evils attending upon the sweating system practised in many of the Jewish bakeries. It appears that in many of these establishments it is not unusual for the men employed in them to have to work from sixteen to twenty four hours a day. The bakeries were described as in a deplorable condition with regard to both filth and want of ventilation. The Chief Rabbi said he would take an early opportunity of visiting some of the worst places complained of, and he hoped to be able by representations made in the proper quarter to obtain some amelioration in the condition of both the employés and their workshops. Apparently the bakers rather overstated their grievances. Dr. ADLER took the proper course of hearing what the employers and foremen had to say in their defence. The result is that he finds very few hands work for so little as 10s. a week, the pay being oftener double that amount, and still fewer twenty-five to twenty-six hours on a stretch, the average day not exceeding twelve hours. On the other hand, the Chief Rabbi fears the complaint is well-founded that many of the men are

compelled to work on the Sabbath, and to this subject, and the insanitary state of many of the bake-houses, he promises to devote earnest attention.

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THE Select Committee on Death Certification, of which body Sir W. FOSTER is chairman, concluded yesterday the consideration of their report, which was subsequently laid upon the table of the House. The following are the principal recommendations of the committee:—(1) That in no case should a death be registered without production of a certificate of the cause of death signed by a registered medical practitioner, or by a coroner after inquest, or in Scotland by a procurator fiscal. (2) That in each sanitary district a registered medical practitioner should be appointed as public medical certifier of the cause of death in cases in which a certificate from a medical practitioner in attendance is not forthcoming. (3) That a medical practitioner in attendance should be required, before giving a certificate of death, to personally inspect the body; but if, on the ground of distance or for other sufficient reasons, he is unable to make this inspection himself, he should obtain and attach to the certificate of the cause of death a certificate signed by two persons, neighbours of the deceased, verifying the fact of death. (4) That medical practitioners should be required to send certificates of death direct to the registrar, instead of handing them to the representatives of the deceased. (5) That a form of certificate of death should be prescribed, and that in giving a certificate medical practitioners should be required to use such form. (6) That it should be made a penal offence to bury or otherwise dispose of a body, except in time of epidemic, without an order from the registrar stating the place and mode of disposal, which order, after it has been acted upon, should be returned to the registrar who issued it. (7) That it should be made an offence to retain a dead body unburied or otherwise legally disposed of beyond a period not exceeding eight days, except by permission of a magistrate. (8) That the practice of burial in pits or common graves should be discontinued. (9) That still-births which have reached the stage of development of seven months should be registered upon the certificate of a registered medical practitioner, and that it should not be permitted to bury or otherwise dispose of the still-birth until an order for burial has been issued by the registrar. (10) That, subject always to the discretion of the Crown Office, the result of precognitions taken by the procurators fiscal in Scotland, or the precognitions themselves, should

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