

capacity exclusive respect; while it is still rewarded out of all proportion to any other, its possession is by no means assumed to imply the possession of the highest moral qualities." Thus the charitable visitor is perplexed by recognitions and suggestions which the situation forces upon her. For instance, on visiting her washerwoman she is no longer sure of her own superiority; "she recognises that her hostess after all represents social value and industrial use, as over against her own parasitic cleanliness and a social standing attained only through status."

A difficulty in establishing useful relations between the charity visitor and the visited is the difference of the ethical standard held, and the "genuine misunderstanding of her motives by the recipients of her charity, and by their neighbours. . . . A most striking incongruity, at once apparent, is the difference between the emotional kindness with which relief is given by one poor neighbour to another poor neighbour, and the guarded care with which relief is given by a charity visitor to a charity recipient."

Thus "an Irish family in which the man has lost his place, and the woman is struggling to eke out the scanty savings by day's work, will take in a widow and five children who have been turned into the street without a moment's reflection upon the physical discomforts involved," and "the most maligned landlady, who lives in the house with her tenants, is usually ready to lend a scuttleful of coal to one of them who may be out of work, or to share her supper."

To people of this type organised charity is perplexing; "the only really popular charity is that of the visiting nurses, who by virtue of their professional training render services which may easily be interpreted into sympathy and kindness, ministering as they do to obvious needs which do not require investigation."

Probably the charity of our hospitals and district nursing societies is administered on a sounder basis than any other, namely, that of the need rather than the worthiness of the recipient, and this accounts for their popularity amongst the poor, who understand the standpoint. But, from whatever point it is regarded, the question of affording effective charitable relief is full of difficulties. Miss Addams thus sums up the situation: "The Hebrew prophet made three requirements from those who would join the great forward-moving procession led by Jehovah. 'To love mercy' and at the same time 'to do justly,' is the difficult task; to fulfil the first requirement alone is to fall into the error of indiscriminate giving, with all its disastrous results; to fulfil the second solely is to obtain the stern policy of withholding, and it results in such a dreary lack of sympathy and understanding that the establishment of justice is impossible. It may be that the combination of the two can never be attained save as we fulfil still the third requirement—'to walk humbly with God,' which may mean to walk for many dreary miles beside the lowliest of His creatures, not even in that peace of mind which the company of the humble is popularly supposed to afford, but rather with the pangs and throes to which the poor human understanding is subjected whenever it attempts to comprehend the meaning of life."

We have no space to deal with succeeding chapters, but all will afford food for reflection.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Frank James Memorial Home at Cowes, placed at the disposal of Princess Henry of Battenberg by Messrs. William and Arthur James, will, in accordance with the terms of the gift, be used as a cottage hospital for the towns of Cowes and East Cowes and as a residential home for district and other nurses.

Patients of the Royal Free Hospital are visited by a lady who inquires into their circumstances. If the person is receiving £200, the hospital refuses further assistance.

The ball to have been given in Brighton this month in aid of Lord Leconfield's fund for the Sussex County Hospital at Brighton has been postponed to January 14th. The hospital has been so greatly improved and brought up to date of late years that it is quite imperative that it should receive extended support.

The late Mr. Weatherill makes some curious stipulations with the Governors of the Leeds General Infirmary with regard to his munificent bequest of £112,000. The fund when it falls due is to be devoted—

"First—To found and sufficiently equip and endow a ward in the Infirmary for accident cases, to be called the 'C. S. Weatherill Accident Ward.'

"Second—To erect in such ward a white marble monument of the testator, with a suitable inscription.

"Third—To apply the surplus of such moneys to the general surgical purposes of the Infirmary."

The will also contains provisions requiring the treasurer to cause a copy of the will and a statement of the money bequeathed thereby to be placed once in every year in a conspicuous position so as to be seen on entering the front door of the Infirmary, and to cause an account showing the expenditure of such money to be placed in the accident ward.

The new offices of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children are to be opened by Lord Alverstone on February 4th. Coming upon the attacks which have been made upon the Society, it is gratifying to know that the Society has a firm supporter in the Lord Chief Justice of England.

In the case of "Earl De La Warr v. Wills," heard in the Chancery Division on Monday, Dr. Wills, the defendant, is reported as having said "he had performed operations on the balconies." The actual words used by Dr. Wills were: "I do not perform operations on the balconies."

The Earl of Dalkeith, in the presence of a large company, on Saturday afternoon opened the new wing of the Kettering General Hospital, which has been erected at a cost of £8,000 on land given by the Duke of Buccleuch. The alterations provide for a special ward for children and a new operating theatre.

It has been decided to again enlarge the North Lonsdale Hospital at Barrow. Owing to the rapid increase in the number of accidents on several occa-

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