

borough, or some other fishing station in the north of England, until they go to Lowestoft and Yarmouth in October. Printed cards, with names and addresses of the different dispensaries at the fishing stations in Scotland and England, are given to them when they leave Aberdeen, so that they may be sure of friendly help wherever they are sent. They go about in "crews" of three—two to prepare the fish, and one to pack; and they are generally firm friends, and very loyal to one another, hailing, as they do, from the same place, probably some remote spot in the Northern Highlands. They have a good deal of character, and this makes the work amongst them extremely interesting. The majority are Highlanders, but some come from English seaports, and the fishermen are from all parts.

Though the dispensary is principally used by the girls, the fishermen also avail themselves of it, as they are subject to a kind of carbuncle or sea boil which causes much suffering. It is sometimes only possible to apply one dressing before the boats have to go off again, but material is supplied and the men are instructed how to carry out some simple treatment for themselves or to get a kindly "chum" to do it for them. It is wonderful to note how handy and skilful some of them are, having learnt by experience to be quick at improvising ways and means. A doctor, who came to the dispensary one year with the intention of giving weekly lectures on first aid to the injured, began by showing the men how to restore animation to the apparently drowned. They listened and watched with much attention, and at the close of the demonstrations said, "Very good, sir. Now shall we show you how we do it?" And their method proved as effectual, if less scientific, than the doctor's. Some of the Irish sailors are very amusing in their comments on the dispensary. One of them, coming in with a very bad hand, was asked why he had not applied for help sooner, and replied that he had not heard of the place until a friend had told him, "there was a woman round the corner who could cure any mortal thing." The nurses' own view of their powers is a more modest one, but there is no doubt that the work done under the auspices of the Mission to Fisher Folk meets a very real need.

A trained nurse is now at the Sir Kenneth S. MacKenzie Memorial Nurses' Home, Conon-Bridge, Ross-shire, available to go to any part of the county to attend all non-infectious cases. She has been placed there through the kindness of Lady MacKenzie, of Gairloch, who takes a deep interest in the Home, and desires that the nurse residing in it should benefit as wide an area as possible. The services of the two nurses already in the Home for attendance on infectious cases are, we learn, largely taken advantage of; indeed, it is seldom that the services of well-trained nurses are not appreciated.

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



On Monday, October 26th, at three o'clock, the Duchess of Albany, who is the President of the Ladies' General Committee, will lay the first stone of the new buildings of the Royal Hospital for Children and Women, in Waterloo Bridge Road. The Lord Mayor, as President of the institution, is issuing the invitations for the ceremony, and the Lady Mayoress is making a collection towards the purse which she, like other members of the Ladies' Committee, will present to the Duchess of Albany towards the building fund. The annual cost of the institution is about £10,000. The building will contain about 200 beds for in-patients, and provision for the attendance of 150 out-patients daily. The total cost of the new hospital is estimated at £50,000.

At Tottenham Police-court the Tottenham Hospital authorities have again been summoned for the non-payment of rates amounting to £110 8s. 4d. Mr. F. Armitage, who appeared for the defence, pleaded that the institution was greatly in need of funds, this being the reason why the demands of the local authorities had not been met. The hospital had been further burdened in consequence of the large increase in the assessment of the buildings. The magistrate expressed regret that the hospital should be in such a position, and, while making the usual order, extended the time for payment up to December 31st.

The Governing Body of the Hospital Saturday Fund, of which Sir Savile Crossley, M.P., is chairman, have fixed Saturday, October 10th, as the date of their thirtieth annual special collection in aid of the medical charities of London. The ordinary weekly collection in the industrial and other establishments, however, which constitutes the main source of the fund, will be continued until the end of the year. The total income for 1902 reached £23,671. Since the foundation of the movement the sum of £325,053 has been collected and distributed amongst the hospitals and dispensaries.

In accordance with a resolution passed at a special meeting of the board of delegates of the Hospital Saturday Fund, recognising the desirability of an effort being made to increase the accommodation for persons suffering from tuberculosis in London and the suburbs, a representative committee is being formed of all organisations of the workers in London who are interested in the matter, with a view of considering the advisability of providing sanatoria within easy reach of London for the reception of tuberculous patients "on terms that would be within the means of the working classes."

The alterations and improvements in Charing Cross Hospital, the carrying out of which necessitated the closing of the institution on July 18th, have now been completed, and the hospital will be reopened for both in and out patients on October 15th.

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