

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—Her Majesty the Queen has, through Earl de Grey, Treasurer of her Household, forwarded to the Lord Mayor a sum of £1,000 to start the appeal which is shortly to be made for funds for the enlargement and improvement of St. Bartholomew's Hospital in accordance with the recommendations of the Mansion House Committee. The Lord Mayor has sent the Queen's donation to Sir Trevor Lawrence, the treasurer of the hospital. It is probable that the appeal for funds on behalf of the hospital will be issued shortly after Sir James Ritchie enters upon the office of Lord Mayor. The Governors of the hospital, we learn, will meet on Thursday, November 5th, to consider the report of the Lord Mayor's Committee on the improvement scheme, and to discuss how it shall be acted upon.

THE KING'S SANATORIUM AT MIDHURST.—Extensive preparations are being made for the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the King Edward the Seventh Sanatorium at Midhurst by His Majesty on November 3rd. A wide metalled road, more than a mile long, has been made from the main road to the site, and on the centre of the area on which the front of the building will be a large pavilion and stands for spectators have been erected. The pavilion is over the site on which the stone will be laid, and a deep concrete footing has been placed for the reception of the stone. The ceremony will take place at a quarter to one o'clock in the afternoon. His Majesty will travel from London by the South-Western Railway to Haslemere Station, and will go thence to the site by motor-car.

THE HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.—The Lord Mayor, as the treasurer of the Hospital Sunday Fund, has received from Mr. George Herring the sum of £12,312, in conformity with his munificent promise to add 5s. to every pound collected on Hospital Sunday in the churches, chapels, and other places of worship in the metropolis. Last year Mr. Herring made the same generous undertaking and contributed £11,575. In the three preceding years he gave £10,000 a year. The total amount of the fund this year is £64,700, and is a "record" collection, being £2,000 more than in 1902.

THE QUEEN'S SANATORIUM AT DAVOS.—Sir Edmund Hay Currie, Secretary of the Hospital Sunday Fund, has forwarded to the Press some fresh details concerning the Queen Alexandra Consumption Sanatorium at Davos, Switzerland. It is intended, says Sir Edmund, for a poorer class of patients than have hitherto enjoyed the benefits of Davos. A year's cure will cost £55, or £65 including return fares from England. As this sum will not cover the cost of maintenance, a small number of patients will be received at a higher figure, and will be afforded superior accommodation. The hospital will cost £50,000, and will contain 150 beds. A fine site has been acquired facing south, and situated 5,000 ft. above sea-level.

THE SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE.—On Mr. Chamberlain's retirement from the post of Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine sent a letter to the right hon. gentleman recording their acknowledgment of the manner in which he had grappled with the important problem of health in the British tropical colonies, and trusting that his initiative in that matter would result in the saving of many valuable lives. In the letter referred to from the Cape Coast Chamber of Commerce attention is called to the marked improvement in the general health of Cape Coast, which in the opinion of the Chamber is undoubtedly due to the better sanitary conditions under which the inhabitants of the Colony live. During the past six months the white residents in Cape Coast have been almost entirely free from malarial attacks, and the natives, while suffering from the effects of an exceptionally cold rain season, have also been, as far as is known, practically immune from malaria. The admissions to the small-pox hospital during the months of June and July averaged one per month, while in August there were no admissions.

## The "B.M.F." and Registration.

Under the heading "The Registration of Nurses," two able letters appeared in the *British Medical Journal* of 24th ult, from Dr. Henry Langley Browne, President of the Birmingham and District General Practitioners' Union, West Bromwich, and Dr. Ernest W. Hey Groves, of Clifton. Dr. Browne takes exception to Mr. Sydney Holland's statement that "when one takes the trouble to inquire into the causes of complaint against trained nurses it is comparatively seldom that ignorance of a nurse's technical duties is the source of the grievance," and says:—

"It has been constantly noted by members of the medical profession that 'ignorance of a nurse's technical duties' exists amongst many of those nurses who are sent out as fully trained, and it is for this reason that some supervision of the training-schools and some test of a nurse's capability is necessary, in the interests of the public, of the medical profession, and of the nurses themselves."

Further, Dr. Browne says:—

"It is not very many years since nursing duties had to be undertaken by the medical attendant, and there is nothing which has done more to relieve the strain and worry of a doctor's life than the evolution of the trained nurse. Therefore, the medical profession owes a great debt of gratitude to the nursing, and it could not be better paid than by supporting the nurses in their legitimate desire for State recognition and registration."

Dr. Groves writes:—

"It is outside London and in the rural districts that it is most common to meet the quite untrained nurse, and it is just in such out-of-the-way places where the nurse has to bear the most responsibility, as she is often at a distance from a medical man. I can speak most emphatically from my own experience of the help it would be if a State (or official) Register of Trained Nurses existed."

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