

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—At the General Court of Governors, held on the 5th inst., resolutions embodying the views of the Mansion House Committee were adopted. No. 3 resolves:—"That, in the general scheme of rebuilding, provision be made for (a) additional operating theatres; (b) new casualty and out-patient departments; (c) new nurses' home; (d) new quarters for the resident medical and surgical staff; (e) an isolation block and other new ward blocks, to supply the place of those to be demolished; (f) new mortuary, *post-mortem* rooms, and pathological department; (g) internal structural rearrangement of the east, west, and south wings of the hospital." The space available is insufficient for the purpose. We are for obtaining additional ground, clearing the present site, and rebuilding from the base. No amount of "internal structural rearrangement" can modernise "Barts."

AT GUY'S HOSPITAL.—From the Treasurer's statement presented at the Annual Court of Governors, it appeared that all the wards were now opened, and more than 600 beds available for patients, and that the cost of maintenance could not be less than £60,000 per annum. Towards this the hospital possessed an income, more or less assured, of some £35,000 per annum, and, in addition, had recently been in receipt of about £11,000 annually from King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, the Hospital Saturday and Sunday Funds, and subscribers, leaving a deficiency in ordinary income of £14,000 per annum. The Treasurer further reported that of the £180,000 appealed for in 1901 on renovation and building account only £103,000 had been received to date, and that for the balance the institution was in debt on temporary loans. It was unanimously resolved that "the Treasurer be requested to obtain the widest currency possible for a short statement of the present circumstances of the charity, and, further, to continue a vigorous appeal with a view of enlarging the basis of public support adequately to the increased needs of the establishment."

THE CANCER HOSPITAL, FULHAM ROAD.—A quantity of pure radium has been generously placed at the disposal of a member of the staff of the Cancer Hospital, Fulham Road, and the staff is making arrangements for an extensive trial of the new method of treatment. With the number of inoperable cases at its disposal the staff will be able to give a fair and exhaustive trial to the method.

AT POPLAR HOSPITAL FOR ACCIDENTS.—The paying ward recently added to Poplar Hospital is being extensively used. The ward was built with the idea of accommodating patients who have to undergo operations and cannot afford high fees. Persons of comparatively limited means can obtain lodging, board, and good nursing attendance for £3 3s. per week. Surgeons' fees and washing are not included in the charge.

THE LONDON WATER ARBITRATION COURT.—Several witnesses before the London Water Arbitration Court, in giving evidence against the East London Water Company's claim, declared that the River Lea was not a fit source of supply. Dr. Klein, bacteriologist, gave the results of analyses of water from the Rivers Lea and Stort. He found that a cubic centimetre of unfiltered water contained over 50,000 bacteria. In a sample of water taken from a standpipe in Whitechapel there were 204 microbes per cubic centimetre.

THE KING'S SANATORIUM AT MIDHURST.—There is a rumour that the first Medical Superintendent of King Edward VII.'s Sanatorium is to be imported from Germany. This suggestion has aroused adverse criticism in medical circles. Germany is without doubt the birthplace and nursery of sanatoria for tuberculosis; but before the new sanatorium is ready for occupation there is ample time for British experts to acquaint themselves with the methods of the Fatherland, and adapt them to our own special needs.

AT THE NURSES' HOME, LOWESTOFT.—A branch of the Norfolk and Norwich Institute of Hospital Trained Nurses has, owing to the success of the Institute, opened a branch home at 385, London Road, South Lowestoft. The Matron is Mrs. Puddicombe. The opening ceremony was performed by Lady Boileau, after which those present inspected the premises, and adjourned to tea.

AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, DUBLIN.—Sir Lambert Ormsby, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin, speaking at a distribution of prizes, referred to the Irish Poor Law Medical Service, and urged the students to refuse to enter a service which imposed such degradation on its officials. "Starve the service out!" he said, "as was done with the Army Medical Service." They should rather break stones than enter a service which employed them on starvation terms, and the recreants that did so did not deserve the name of men.

"A Like People unto You."

In a contemporary a correspondent exclaims, referring to cruelty to animals in Cairo:—"What was Mahomet about when, with all his wondrous knowledge of human nature and the greatness of his written laws, he did not include in the Koran some forbidding clause concerning the treatment of dumb animals?"

This has called forth the following interesting information from a follower of the "true Prophet":—"As a matter of fact, long before the European nations ever dreamt of extending towards animals tenderness and humanity Mahomet proclaimed in impressive words the duty of mankind towards their dumb and humble servitors. 'Fear God with regard to animals; ride them when they are fit to be ridden, and get off when they are tired. Verily, there are rewards for our doing good to dumb animals and giving them water to drink' (Hadeeth). In the Koran, animal life stands on the same footing as human life in the sight of the Creator. 'There is no beast on earth, nor bird which flieth with its wings, but the same is a people like unto you—unto the Lord shall they return' (Koran: Surah vi., cattle, v. 38)."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)