

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



HOSPITAL SUNDAY.—Sunday, June 12th, has been fixed for Hospital Sunday this year, and the Council of the Fund are, in addition to their ordinary work, making a strong effort to obtain the support and assistance of residents and congregations in the suburbs, having regard to the fact that the number of patients sent from the country districts for treatment and operation in the London hospitals is getting increasingly large. Since its establishment in 1872 the Hospital Sunday Fund has collected £1,244,006. The collections last year reached £64,975, being a record on all previous years. In 1903, 5,232 surgical appliances and about 16,000 hospital letters were supplied to the clergy for the benefit of their poor parishioners. The contributing congregations numbered 1,987, and 211 hospitals, dispensaries, and convalescent homes received grants.

FESTIVAL FOR ROYAL LONDON EYE HOSPITAL.—Sir Charles Wyndham will preside at the festival dinner to be held at the Hotel Cecil on Friday, April 22nd, on the occasion of the centenary of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, City Road, E.C.

TROPICAL DISEASES.—At the annual meeting of the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, the Lord Mayor presiding, it was reported that the tropical ward alone had last year 149 patients, against 137 and 131 in the two previous years. Most of these patients suffered from malarial diseases alone or with complications. Other affections included dysentery, beri-beri, blackwater fever, and sleeping sickness. The nationalities represented besides British were American, Chilean, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Austrian, Finn, Swedish, and Norwegian. The Committee considered it probable that the institution of a diploma in tropical medicine, contemplated by Liverpool University, would still further attract students. Sir Alfred Jones, as a shipping man, recognised the good work done by the hospital. If more money was wanted, his firm would increase the 50 guineas donation to 100 guineas to show their appreciation of the work.

SUNSHINE HOME.—The Hon. Mrs. Campion, Danny, Hassocks, makes an urgent appeal for funds for a small nursing home in Sussex. The institution is Sunshine Home, Hurstpierpoint, which receives from the London hospitals poor women who have undergone operations and need much nursing with good food to restore them to health. It was opened in 1902, and the fact of the place being small, which is a source of infinite pleasure to the inmates after the stir of a large hospital ward, makes it the more expensive to maintain. If it has to be closed through want of subscriptions it will mean the withdrawing from some of the poorest women in the metropolis a valuable means of comfort in weakness and ill-health. Having regard to the excellence of the work that is being done, it is to be hoped that the necessary support for its continuance will be forthcoming. The existing debt is close on £100, towards the payment of which donations are required. Annual subscriptions to the

amount of £35 would, with £35 contributed locally, be sufficient to run the organisation free of debt. Donations and subscriptions should be sent to Mrs. Campion.

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, DUBLIN.—The thirty-first annual meeting of the subscribers and friends of the Children's Hospital, Temple Street, Dublin, a most valuable and interesting institution, was recently held in the Board room of the Hospital, and on the occasion the new operation theatre was visited and declared formally open by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant. This theatre, which is at the back of the hospital, has been built on the most improved principles. It has a terrazzo flooring and walls of white tiles, is well lit and ventilated, and is equipped with the most approved scientific apparatus.

THE SISTERS' REPORT.—The Sisters in charge of the hospital acknowledged with gratitude the help of many well-wishers and friends, and reported that the most important events of the year have been the completion of the new operation theatre. The theatre is thoroughly up-to-date in every respect, all the most improved methods of construction and equipment having been introduced. The necessary enlargement of the laundry, consequent on the increased work of the hospital, has been completed, and the improvements thereby effected have given an opportunity of introducing a perfect system of heating the wards by means of super-heated steam, adding very largely to the benefits and comfort of the children. A matter of paramount importance is the establishment of a cottage convalescent home in connection with the hospital. At present children must be kept too long in hospital or be sent home to insanitary surroundings, much to their own detriment, and this prevents the admission of more urgent cases. Experience has proved that fresh air in abundance is the best and quickest means of restoring delicate children to vigour and health, and the only effective treatment of tubercular disease.

In connection with the Orthopædic Department of the hospital, a highly-trained masseuse has recently been appointed. In consequence the cure of deformities can be carried out more quickly and more completely than formerly, and the nurses will get a practical training in massage, which will be of material benefit to them afterwards. The Sisters desire to have it remembered that the field of work is an ever-growing one. From all Ireland, as well as from Dublin, suffering children are sent to the hospital, and all are welcome, irrespective of creed. While grateful for the aid so generously given in the past, the Sisters earnestly ask their friends to remember the necessities of the future.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF DERMATOLOGISTS.—A correspondent writes that there is to be held an International Dermatology Congress in Berlin on September 12th to 17th this year, at which the subject of leprosy will be fully discussed.

SIGNORINA RAVOGLI HELPS BART'S.—Her Majesty the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales have given their patronage to a concert organised by Signorina Giulia Ravogli on Friday, June 3, at the Queen's Hall in aid of the Appeal Fund of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

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