

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



A MODERN HOSPITAL FOR THE CITY OF LONDON.—Sir William P. Treloar, Ludgate Hill, Chairman of the Special Committee appointed to collect funds for the reconstruction of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, has embodied an appeal in a pamphlet which deals in a concise form with the past, present, and future of the institution. A sketch by Sir Edward Poynter furnishes an embellishment for the cover

of the brochure, which states that an absolutely new hospital can be provided for £438,000. "Our aim," says Sir William, "is to give the City of London a completely modern hospital, perfectly equipped, abreast of the latest advances in specialised scientific knowledge, worthy of the traditions of the past, an honour to the Empire." In these hard times the raising of half a million is, he admits, a stupendous task, but it is, he thinks, not beyond the capacities of a large-hearted public, and it is to that public he confidently appeals.

WINDSOR HOSPITAL SCHEME.—The King is taking a keen interest in the proposals for the erection of a new up-to-date hospital at Windsor, the present institution being most inadequate for the needs of the district. Lord Esher represents His Majesty on the Committee, and when a suitable site is found for the building subscriptions are to be invited for its erection.

HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.—The Lord Mayor presided recently at a meeting, at the Mansion House, of the General Purposes Committee of the Hospital Sunday Fund, the meeting being convened for the purpose of making arrangements for Hospital Sunday on June 12th. Last year £64,900 was raised in connection with the Fund, and it constituted a record collection, in spite of the unfavourable condition of the elements, Hospital Sunday last year being exceedingly windy and wet. A hope was expressed at the meeting that the record this year would be broken, and that the subscription would be nearer £100,000. There are at present 2,000 places of worship, including all denominations, in which appeals are made on Hospital Sunday, and the sum received last year in connection therewith amounted to no less than £49,200.

DONATIONS TO THE LONDON HOSPITAL.—Mr. Edward Davis, of Cheltenham, has given a donation of £1,000 to the funds of the London Hospital, and the Clothworkers Company have sent £200, being the second instalment of the contribution of £1,000 voted by their Court to that institution.

THOUSANDS OF POUNDS FOR HOSPITALS.—The estate of the late Mr. John Forbes, K.C., Recorder of Hull, has been sworn at £53,000. To the Aberdeen University the deceased gentleman has bequeathed £10,000, and nearly the whole of the remaining part of the estate goes to hospitals.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.—The foundation-stone of the new Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women at Sparkbrook was recently laid by Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, to whose efforts

the scheme owes its inception. In performing the ceremony, he referred to the way in which patients went about obtaining hospital tickets. There was no justification for the ticket system, except as a means of getting subscriptions, and it appeared to him that a hospital which did away with that method should appeal all the more strongly to the charitable public. Another departure made by the hospital was that from the first they allowed women to take an equal share in the management, and he attributed their success to the fact that they had had first hand the advice of women upon matters which they were eminently able to understand. They were the first hospital in the city, and one of the first in the country, to have a lady doctor as their house surgeon.

IN MEMORY OF DICKENS.—At the annual meeting of the Rochester branch of the Dickens Fellowship recently, it was decided, as a memorial to the late Charles Dickens, to take steps to equip a cot in the children's ward of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, and to undertake the planting of trees on each side of the high road between Rochester and Gad's Hill Place, the novelist's former residence.

A WARNING TO MOTHERS AND NURSES.—At a meeting of the Birmingham Health Committee recently, the Medical Officer of Health reported on the extent to which milk sold in the west-end of Birmingham is being coloured in order to give poor milk the appearance of rich milk. A considerable number of badly-adulterated samples have recently been obtained from vendors in this part of the city, but in addition to adulteration by water most of them have been coloured to make them appear rich. Birmingham is not the only city in which this cruel fraud is practised on the poor.

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENTS' PROTEST.—The letter from thirteen medical superintendents of the Metropolitan Asylums Board's infectious hospitals, protesting against the recent decision of the Hospitals Committee limiting the quantities of coal, gas, or electricity to be supplied to them free of charge as part of their emoluments, has been referred to the General Purposes Committee.

HELP FOR A WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.—MESSRS. N. M. Rothschild and Sons have sent a donation of twenty guineas to the special appeal building fund for the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women, Marylebone Road.

THE PASSING OF THE POLE TRAP.—Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Sydney Buxton, Treasurer of the Birds Protection Society, in the House of Commons, and of the Marquis of Granby, a Vice-President of the same Society, in the House of Lords, says the *Animals' Friend*, the use of the pole trap has now been made illegal. The pole trap, we may explain, as we find some people have never made its acquaintance, is a steel spring trap with teeth, which is generally fastened by a chain to the top of a pole in a clearing of a wood or other open space. The pole forms a tempting place for a bird to alight, and it is caught by the teeth and kept hanging there until the gamekeeper makes his next round. It was intended mainly for the destruction of hawks, but was fatal to quite as many owls and also other birds. We shall soon begin to wonder that such an abominable instrument was tolerated so long.

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