

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



DONATION FROM THE KING.—The following letter has been received by the Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Sir Trevor Lawrence:—

"Buckingham Palace,
July 6th, 1904.

"Dear Sir Trevor Lawrence,—I am commanded by the King to send you a cheque for £1,000, which His Majesty wishes placed to the building fund of St. Bartholomew's Hospital in com-

memoration of his having this day had the pleasure and satisfaction of laying the first stone of the new building of the hospital, an institution in the welfare and progress of which His Majesty has always taken, and continues to take, the greatest interest.

"Very truly yours,
"D. M. PROBYN."

NINE CASES AN HOUR.—Mr. John Trotter, presiding at the Holborn Restaurant at the annual dinner of the Poplar Hospital for Accidents, testified, from his personal knowledge as Chairman of the Millwall Dock Company, to the admirable work done by the institution in the East End of London. Describing it as an "oasis" in the densely-populated district, and as a boon to the men employed at the docks and the river-side, he said that 38,000 accidents were treated in it last year, and that nine cases were dealt with every hour of the day at an average cost of less than five shillings. He coupled with the toast of "Success to the Hospital" the name of its chairman, the Hon. Sydney Holland, for it had become a household word in connection with the hospital. The Hon. Sydney Holland, in replying, said he doubted whether any other institution could point to the success which they had enjoyed in Poplar. The income of the hospital had been increased from £3,000 to about £15,000, and the number of beds from thirty-six to a hundred and two, and though it had no endowment it had never been in debt. Its success depended, of course, on the money obtained for it, and he hoped it would always be well supported. In conclusion, he reminded the company that next year would be the fiftieth of the hospital's existence. During the evening Mr. Edward Feneran, the secretary, announced that the dinner had resulted in an addition of £3,112 to the funds of the institution.

OUT-THROAT CHARITIES.—The *Daily Mail* has been tabulating the sums the various hospitals in the metropolis are asking for over and above their annual income. The amount comes out at £2,700,000! Is it a wonder the public are wearying of their importunities? Some Society women, who spend much of their time running charity bazaars and entertainments, advocate State aid, without State supervision. State aid may become necessary, but cash will not be given without equivalent control. That is quite certain. The management of many of our great charities is very high and haughty, as the nurses have found to their cost when inviting consideration of their concerns. Speaking from personal experience, we find that not one London hospital secretary in twenty condescends either to acknowledge, much less answer, an official communication. Surely this

discourtesy is bad policy, to say nothing of neglect of duty.

AT RICHMOND.—The Duchess of Albany, last week, opened the new out-patient and ophthalmic departments of the Royal Hospital. Her Royal Highness was received at the main entrance by the Mayor and leading officials. A bouquet of orchids was presented to the Duchess by Miss Winifred Bateman, after which the Mayor welcomed Her Royal Highness to the Borough of Richmond. Colonel Sparks (the Chairman) read an address, which gave an account of the establishment and progress of the institution. The accommodation at the Royal Hospital for patients now includes sixty beds and cots, but that for out-patients has become quite inadequate. Two legacies received in the early part of last year, and the gift of £1,000 towards a new waiting hall by Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hilditch, enabled the Committee to erect additional bedroom accommodation for the staff, the new out-patient department, and an ophthalmic department. Subsequently, Her Royal Highness received purses from donors, the total amount collected being over £180, whilst donations, including one of £50 by the Mayor of Richmond, realised a sufficient amount to clear the debt on the new building.

The hospital was looking very spick and span, and had been beautifully decorated by the Matron, Miss Foley, and the nursing staff, and the garden and visitors all looked very gay. The Duchess was photographed in a group before leaving, and expressed herself highly pleased with the progress in the hospital's work in every department.

A GRANT TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL.—An application has been made to the Brighton General Purposes Committee by the Board of Management of the Sussex County Hospital to vote £2,000 out of the proceeds of the Hedgcock Bequest towards the cost of adapting the Jubilee building entirely for the diseases of women. The Committee have granted the application subject to the compliance of the trustees of the will, and have requested the Hospital Management Committee to appoint six members of the Town Council (two Aldermen and four Councillors to be nominated by the Council) to be Life Governors of the institution.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MR. JOHN TOWN.—Last week the sum of £150 was given anonymously for the furnishing of eight cots in the children's ward of the Keighley Victoria Hospital in commemoration of the services rendered to the borough by the late Mr. John Town, of Mansion House, Keighley. A tablet bearing an appropriate inscription is to be erected in the ward.

GENERAL BOOTH'S MESSAGE.—In the course of an address, based on the words of Christ to the Apostles, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," General Booth said the message he had to give them that night was the same as the Saviour gave to the officers of the Salvation Army of that day. "Those who followed the Master 2,000 years ago," cried the General, "turned the world upside down. Go and turn it upside down again. There is as much sin, as much wickedness, and as much devilry in the world to-day as there was then—ay! and more."

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