

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Queen Alexandra Sanatorium (Davos, Switzerland) Fund, which recently held its annual meeting under the presidency of Lord Balfour of Burleigh, has now received £11,700 towards the £40,000 which it wants for the sanatorium, but will not begin to build until another £10,000 has been collected.

The Admiralty have recently issued a new field-service haversack to the Medical Department of the Navy. It is about the most complete thing of its kind ever produced. Medicines, antiseptics, lint, iodoform gauze, apparatus for detecting impurity in water—everything which could conceivably be wanted during an expedition ashore, in fact, has been provided in this handy little compendium, which is no bigger than an ordinary knapsack, and weighs no more than a few pounds.

Ladies' Guilds in connection with the large London hospitals are becoming quite fashionable. Their work is of a purely philanthropic character, and is most helpful to the finances of these institutions, as they use subscriptions in an eminently practical manner, providing new beds, books for the patients, ward linen, and gifts of vegetables and flowers are often sent from a superabundance at their country homes.

The acceptance by Lord Glenesk of the office of President of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, as announced at the recent meeting of Governors, left vacant the chairmanship of the Council. This has now been filled by the election of Mr. T. Dyer Edwardes, late Vice-Chairman, and Sir Frederick W. R. Fryer has been elected Vice-Chairman.

The Duchess of Albany visited Cobham on the 29th ult. to open a new cottage hospital.

The Committee of University College Hospital has issued a special appeal for funds. The annual expenditure is £23,500, and the reliable income £9,000, leaving the balance of £14,500 to be met by voluntary contributions. It became necessary recently to sell out stock to produce £2,000 to pay pressing tradesmen's bills. Now the committee find themselves placed in further difficulty owing to the new building having been handed over to them in an unfinished state by the executors of the late Sir J. Blundell Maple. The sum placed by him at the disposal of the executors for the completion of the building had been exhausted, and they had no power to expend further money on it. The committee are therefore compelled to provide a sum of about £3,200 for the execution of absolutely essential work. The committee most earnestly appeal for donations to enable them to meet the cost of this work, and also for contributions, in the form of annual subscriptions and donations, for the maintenance of the hospital so as to avoid further sales of stock and the consequent diminution of the permanent income of the charity.

Mrs. Esther Abecasis, of 11, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, who died in April last, leaving property

of the value of £9,105, by her will, which has just been proved, bequeathed about £7,000 to charities, the principal bequests being:—£1,000 to London Hospital, £1,000 to Metropolitan Hospital, £1,000 to the elders of the Sephardin Congregation, Bevis Marks, London, in trust, the income to be paid to the head rabbi of the Yeshiba Beth Aaron, Jerusalem. The money bequeathed to the two hospitals named is to be used for the endowment of a bed in each for Jewish patients.

The hospitals and other medical institutions of Liverpool will this month have distributed among them a sum of £10,000 from the Hospital Saturday and Sunday Funds, a contribution to their financial resources which will be most welcome. In former years an allocation of the funds has generally been made in July, but this year the Distribution Committee feel that it would be well to make a contribution a little earlier, and later in the year, when all the funds have come in, give such further assistance as the resources at their disposal will permit.

In November last it was announced that the committee of the Royal United Hospital had received a very gratifying offer from Lord Hylton, of Ammerdown, near Radstock, who expressed his willingness to give a donation to the funds of £100, provided that within six months from date other donations amounting to £900 were received. The period may be regarded as having expired, and we are glad to say that Lord Hylton's offer has been secured, and his cheque actually paid. Nearly £600 was announced three weeks ago to have been received in direct contributions to the "Hylton Fund," and what balance remained was provided by the League of Help out of the donations they have received, and from other sources.

At a recent meeting of subscribers of the Acland Nursing Home at Oxford, it was decided to build some necessary additions, which the Chairman, Mr. M. Wootten, said were to be provided at the urgent recommendation of the medical gentlemen of the district, and would render the Home a complete and well-equipped hospital. The operating-room would be fitted with the most perfect modern appliances. The architect's estimate of cost of building was £1,800, and it was expected that the total cost would not exceed £2,100. Towards this it was proposed to appropriate the bequest of £200 given by the late Dr. Fowler, and to appeal for subscriptions.

A joint committee representing the Glasgow Archaeological Society, the Glasgow Institute of Architects, and the Glasgow Art Club are protesting against the plans for the new Royal Infirmary, which they say would dwarf the Cathedral and necessitate the removal of the present beautiful building by Robert Adam.

There is really no necessity to set down hospitals in the midst of a teeming population, amidst the noise and mal odours of city surroundings. The first necessity of the sick is fresh air, light, and sunshine, and this could be achieved by having receiving houses in the city and the hospitals in the country surrounding them, with an efficient ambulance service to connect the two. Why not try this plan in Glasgow, adapting part of the present Infirmary as a receiving house?

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