

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree has placed His Majesty's Theatre and the services of himself and his company in the performance of "Captain Swift" at the disposal of the committee organising the arrangements of a matinée to be given on May 22nd in aid of the funds of the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, W.C. Princess Louise Augusta, of Schleswig-Holstein, is chairman of the committee.

At the Annual Meeting of the General Council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London it was announced that the Fund had received £361,068, of which the greater part was added to capital. The Fund has now a permanent income of £50,000 a year.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Hospital Saturday Fund Association, at which Sir Savile Crossley presided on Saturday last, the report of the Council, which was adopted, showed that the receipts from the workshops and business houses had reached £25,930, an increase of over £1,500. The total was the highest recorded in the history of the movement.

The Duchess of Albany is to be present at a reception at the Mansion House on the afternoon of the 30th inst. in connection with the Royal Waterloo Hotel Bazaar and Floral Fête to be held in June. The American Ambassador, the Right Hon. Walter Long, M.P., and Mr. George W. E. Russell will speak at the reception.

By permission of the Duchess of Westminster a sale of work in aid of the West Ham Hospital, organised by the Duchess of Marlborough, will take place at Grosvenor House on May 17th and 18th. The needs of the institution are very great owing to the distress of the past two winters.

Professor Jensen, of Copenhagen, has been awarded the Walker Prize for cancer research, and the committee appointed to advise the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons in the matter has presented an interesting report reviewing Professor Jensen's methods of investigation.

M. Paul Cambon, the French Ambassador, will preside at the 38th anniversary dinner of the French Hospital and Dispensary, which is to be held at the Hotel Cecil on Saturday, May 12th.

Mrs. Todd, of Oakwood, St. Helens, Hastings, has given £1,000 towards the rebuilding fund of the local hospital in memory of her late daughter, Mrs. Trevor Williams.

The Central Midwives' Board.

A meeting of the Central Midwives' Board took place at the Board Room, 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, on Tuesday, April 10th. There were present Dr. Champneys, Dr. Dakin, Mr. Parker Young, Mr. Fordham, Miss Wilson, and Miss Paget.

The first business was the election of a Chairman, and Dr. Champneys was unanimously re-elected to this position.

Mr. Fordham was elected Treasurer.

Amongst the letters considered was one from Miss L. V. Haughton, Hon. Secretary of the Irish Matrons' Association, requesting the Board to hold examinations in Dublin; and another from Dr. James Craig, Fellow and Registrar of the Royal College of Physicians, Dublin, in the same sense. Mr. Fordham suggested that it was not within the power of the Board to make any grant for the expenditure connected with holding examinations out of the area defined in the Act of Parliament, and it was agreed to reply that "the Board is not prepared to hold examinations out of the area defined by Parliament for the scope of the Act."

The most interesting business discussed was the Resolution of which Sir William Sinclair had given notice, "That a new rule in the following terms be inserted in Section C:—

"No one shall be permitted to begin the course of instruction, either theoretical or practical, until she has produced evidence satisfactory to the Central Midwives' Board that she has received sufficient elementary education to enable her to read a text book and take notes of cases. But this rule shall not apply to pupils who have received training in general nursing for at least year."

Unfortunately neither Sir William Sinclair nor his seconder, Mr. Ward Cousins, were present, but it was proposed by Dr. Dakin, seconded by Mr. Fordham, that the resolution should be considered.

Considerable discussion ensued. Eventually it was decided to retain Rule 3 in Section C, which gives an examiner power to reject a candidate on the ground of a want of acquaintance with the ordinary subjects of elementary education, and to place the duty of affording evidence of a candidate's general education upon the teacher who certifies to her having attended a course of instruction, and to add a paragraph to Form V. of the Schedule to make provision for this guarantee. This decision was only arrived at after an animated debate, and by the casting vote of the Chairman.

Form V. will therefore now run:—

"I certify that——(to whom this certificate refers) has attended to my satisfaction a course of instruction in the subjects enumerated in Rule C (4), extending over a period of not less than three months and consisting of not less than fifteen lectures, and has shown that she possesses sufficient elementary education to enable her to read, and take notes of cases."

A reference to this Form is to be given at the foot of Rule C (3).

Miss Wilson then moved an addition to Rule E (16), by which midwives will be prevented from laying out a body upon which a post-mortem examination has

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