Oct. 12, 1907]

The British Journal of Mursing.

"Election or Selection," seem to be arousing considerable interest in the local press. We hope that the matter has now been satisfactorily settled.

The medical boycott at the Sheffield Union Infirmary has now been terminated by the decision of the Guardians that the services of the Visiting Surgeon shall be dispensed with, and a Resident Medical Officer appointed with wider experience than has been possible under former conditions. This decision has been arrived at after negotiations between the Hospital Committee of the Sheffield Guardians and the local branch of the Medical Association. The Senior Medical Officer is to have paramount power in medical matters, and the Matron in domestic matters? This is as it should be, but where does nursing come in?

Mr. A. C. Twentyman, J.P., the Chairman of the Board of Management of the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire General Hospital, a member of which he has been since 1859, last week laid the foundation stone of the new Nurses' Home. In doing so he gave an interesting summary of the history of the hospital, and mentioned that there are two sisters at present in the institution, who, in February next, will have completed 35 years in its service.

A pleasant ceremony took place last week in the Merchants' House, Glasgow, when Miss M'Alpin, of the M'Alpin Nursing Home, Glasgow, was presented with a public testimonial in recognition of her long honorary services in connection with it. Lord Overtoun, who presided, said that thirty-three years ago Miss M'Alpin became impressed with the need of training nurses for the sick, and of a nursing home to which patients could go in case of operations and serious illness, and she had the foresight and courage to begin a small home in St. George's Road. He concluded by reading the illuminated address inscribed to Miss M'Alpin on her retirement from the position of Hon. Superintendent of the Glasgow Training Home for Nurses.

The gifts included a handsome silver gilt casket containing the address and a cheque for £250. A tablet is also to be placed in the new home recording Miss M'Alpin's services.

A Canadian correspondent writes: "We hope soon to belong to the International Council of Nurses." We hope so also—it cannot be long before Canadian Nurses organise their National Council.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg has graciously consented to open the sale of work by the patients at the British Home and Hospital for Incurables, Streatham, on November 19th.

The Duchess of Albany has consented to open the new premises of the Infants' Hospital at Vincent Square, Westminster, on Wednesday, November 20th.

Amongst the functions which have taken place in connection with the opening of the winter session at the London Medical Schools, that at University College Hospital was especially interesting, as it took place in the noble library of the fine new Medical School, which forms part of the University of London, and which, with the Students' House and the Nurses' Home, is the gift of Sir Donald Currie, G.C.M.G., LL.D.; to the hospital. There is surely no room pleasanter than one of fine proportions lined with well filled bookshelves and when, as at University College Hospital the library of the school contains portraits and busts of famous men connected with it, the charm is complete.

Sir Richard Douglas Powell, President of the Royal College of Physicians, distributed the medals and prizes, after the Dean had presented his report, and announced the entrance scholarship awards. He said he regarded it as a great honour to offer the welcome of the professors to those present on this occasion in his old school, where had been laid the foundation of all that had come to him in his profession. Specially addressing the students, he congratulated them on entering a noble profession which, though it could not promise much in the light of a trade, yet, if followed with zeal, industry, and stedfastness, would bring to them a sound measure of success, and much comfort to their fellow beings.

He congratulated those who had gained the prizes, on the evidence thus afforded of staying powers, versatility, and perseverance which were likely to lead to success. To those who were behind the winners he pointed out that the game was in the struggle, that the prizes of life were many and various, and that for their attainment not only knowledge but character and stedfastness were necessary. The men, of whom the school was proud were men like Jenner, Marcus Beck, Christopher Heath, and Vivian Poore, men of varied talents, but of upright and clean life, who could endure reverses, and command success, together with the respect of their fellow men.



