

## Reflections.

## FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

In memory of the late Mr. Alfred Boyd, of Sandon, Essex, an ex-member of the Canadian Parliament, his widow has given £1,000 to St. Bartholomew's Hospital to provide the scientific instruments for the new pathological laboratories. One of the laboratories is to be named the Alfred Boyd Memorial Laboratory, and the hospital authorities have decided to invite the Lord Mayor to open the new pathological wing at an early date.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught have made a donation of £800 towards the equipment of a new hospital at Malta, which will be established at Citta Vecchia in place of the military hospital, and will be known as the Connaught Hospital. The Government of Malta have gratefully accepted the donation.

Sir John Dickson Poynder, chairman, and Mr. H. J. Tennant, Deputy-Chairman, of the Great Northern Central Hospital, draw attention to the urgent need for financial support if this very necessary hospital is to carry on its good work in Islington. The annual expenditure averages £17,000, and the total debt to the bankers now amounts to over £12,000. For some years legacies have formed an important part of the annual receipts, but this year there has been a great deficiency under this head, and the income from donations and subscriptions has also diminished. Unless the debt of £12,000 can be reduced, and funds obtained for maintenance, the Committee will be faced with the necessity of closing a ward. The hospital provides accommodation for a population of half a million, of whom the great majority are working people earning weekly wages. The maintenance of this hospital is manifestly beyond the means of residents in such a district, which is already insufficiently provided with hospital accommodation, and the closing of beds would add deplorably to the distress already due to unemployment, and would be nothing short of a calamity.

The Committee of the International Office of Hygiene, which consists of the delegate of the seven participating States, has nominated as its President the Italian delegate, Dr. Santoliquido, Professor in the Roman School and Director-General of the Board of Public Health for the kingdom. The President, who is elected by ballot, holds office for three years.

The Czar of Russia has presented Major Richardson, through General Yermoroff, Russian Military Attaché, with a magnificent gold watch, decorated with the imperial arms in diamonds, as a mark of his Majesty's appreciation of the work done by his ambulance dogs in Manchuria. Major Richardson has previously received the Red Cross war medal from the Empress Marie. The dogs survived the campaign, and are at present in St. Petersburg.

## Our Foreign Letter.

## INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF A NURSE IN THE EAST.



When Amny entered the ward in her Bedawy dress she looked so ill and so old I thought she must be about sixty.

On taking her history, to my surprise, I found she was only twenty, but married, and the mother of four children. Her case was difficult to diagnose; she was dancing about in a frantic sort of way, and said there was something in her brain, which if not removed would drive her mad. Just between the eyebrows was a tiny wound which she said was the cause of the severe headaches from which she was suffering. First there had been a pimple, which she was continually scratching, until a small hole formed, a fly got to it, and after that the maggots got into her brain. She could feel them running about. Such was Amny's story! I thought for the moment she had "a bee in her bonnet," or, as the French say, "*une arraignée au plafond*," but I found her quite consistent in her statements about the cause of her illness. She took both my hands in hers, and said in such a pleading voice, "Oh, Sister, they are walking, walking, walking, right inside my head; make them come out, or I shall die or be majnouny" (mad). On examining the wound very closely after bathing it with a weak solution of carbolic acid, I noticed what looked like the little black head of a maggot in the wound. After this a solution of chinisol was tried, with good result. The wound was sprayed, and the nose irrigated twice daily for a week, at the end of which time Amny exclaimed, "I am healed lady, ma fee doud lessa," lit., "there are no more worms." During the irrigations sometimes two or three maggots were expelled, sometimes only one; altogether there were 25, and each one had to come through this very small wound; the internal and external irritation ceased, a small dressing was applied to the wound, which healed rapidly. There was a marked improvement in the patient's appetite, and after another ten days in hospital she was quite well. I shall never forget the day she left us. She was like a little kitten running about the wards, bidding everybody "Good-bye." Then she donned her Bedawy garments, put some kohl on her eye-lashes, and came back again to the ward where she had been a patient, and imitating the limping gait of a very old woman, she said, "All of you look at me. I am Amny. I came in like this, ajouze, ajouze (old, old)," and, drawing herself up to her full height, she added, and I go out like a bride, young and happy, and strong," and away she ran into the courtyard, where she was greeted by a lot of her relations, some of them old women, who directly they caught sight of her joined in a

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