

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



An interesting discussion in the House of Lords will take place today, Friday, the Earl of Wemyss having previously given notice that he will move to resolve that it is expedient that a Royal Commission be appointed to inquire into the administration of the Poor Law.

Sir Wm. MacCormac, in his recent address to the Royal College of Surgeons, emphasised the necessity of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the cause of cancer, and advocated the opening of a special institution for the study of cancer science, the offering of prizes for cancer research, and the honest recognition by the general profession that at present cancer must be passed on for special treatment, such specialization having been the basis of progress in the study of other diseases.

Plans have been prepared for the military hospital which it is proposed to erect at Millbank.

Lord Rothschild has accepted the Presidency of the Throat Hospital, Golden Square, in succession to the late Earl of Strafford.

The new laboratories in connection with the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, are now completed, and are equipped with all the best modern appliances for the purpose of instruction and original research. Does this account for the excess of expenditure over income of £14,495 last year, which we reported last week?

The trustees of the Reid Trust for the Education of Women have decided to offer a scholarship at the London School of Medicine for Women in memory of their co-trustee, the late Miss Bostock, of Penmaen, Glamorganshire. The value of the scholarships will be £60 a year. Further particulars may be obtained, from the Hon. Sec. of the Reid Trust, Bedford College, York Place, W.

Sir Henry Harben has promised £3,000 towards the Fund for building a new Hospital at Hampstead, provided that £14,000 is raised by June 1st; £3,050 has been already promised by others.

The Governors of the Jessop Hospital, Sheffield, asked for £20,000 in order to enable them to acquire and to build upon it nurses' quarters and accommodation for the maternity department.

Mr. Michael Biddulph, M.P., Treasurer of the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital at Margate, is appealing in the press for funds to enable this most useful institution to carry on and extend its work. He says:—

"We have a well equipped and beautiful hospital, situated where there is the best air in England for the treatment of certain forms of tubercular disease. We have glass verandahs all round the wards to give the patients the benefit of shelter from wind and exposure

to sun. Into these verandahs as many as 80 suffering people per day are often wheeled in their beds from the wards, thus affording a most unusual relief. We have the great satisfaction of seeing the patients, especially in the case of children, improve almost 'while you wait.' All that we need is money to continue the work, and to enable us to fight this horrible tubercular plague which has so long baffled the doctors."

Surely this appeal will move some one possessed of means to liberality. Subscriptions may be sent to Major-General F. Lorn Campbell, 12, Cranley Gardens, S.W., or to Mr. Biddulph, at 43, Charing Cross.

The Hospital Convalescent Home, Parkwood, Swanley, Kent, has during the last year received a total of 1,644 patients from the London Hospital, St. Thomas', Guy's, Westminster, St. Mary's, and Middlesex Hospitals. The average number of patients in the Home was 88, and the duration of the stay of each patient averaged 20 days. The reports of all the Hospitals enumerated make grateful acknowledgment of the benefits received from the Home, with the exception of that of Guy's, which "probably from inadvertence does not contain, like all the others, any complimentary acknowledgment of the services rendered by the Home."

Fraülein Elsa Neumann, the first female doctor of the Berlin University, has been promoted to a Doctorship of Philosophy "cum laude."

The Russian Red Cross Society is organising a bureau with the object of providing work for famine-stricken peasants. In the Government of Ufa alone it is stated that employment has been found for 15,000 men, and others have been sent from Kazan to work on the railway line which is being constructed from Yaroslav through Vologda to Archangel.

By a recent ordinance of the Superior Sanitary Council of Roumania women are not to be permitted in the future to hold the office of *plasa* medical officer (a sort of Poor Law Doctor paid by the State), or physician to a communal hospital. Only large hospitals, with special departments for diseases of women, are to be allowed to have female physicians or surgeons on the staff, and as there are very few such in Roumania the door of public employment is practically closed in the face of the medical women of that country. This illustrates Mrs. Fenwick Miller's assertion that the privileges which women have already won are being wrenched from them.

Professor Wright, the apostle of inoculation for enteric fever states that, at Khartoum, of eight subalterns, six consented to inoculation, and the other two agreed to take their chance. Of these two, one was very ill with enteric, and the other died. The inoculated officers escaped.

It is stated that Plague is raging in Bombay with exceptional severity. The mortality has been rising for some weeks past, and it is now worse than at the time of any previous epidemic.

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