

The Hospital World.

THE COUNTY TYRONE HOSPITAL, OMAGH.

THE new Hospital at Omagh, County Tyrone, was recently formally opened by the Duchess of Abercorn. The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn have both taken the warmest interest in the reconstruction of the hospital, and the happy result now attained is largely due to the energetic efforts of the Duchess. The initiative in the matter was taken by Mrs. Dickie, and eventually an Executive Committee was formed composed of the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn, and other influential county gentlemen. A Ladies' Committee was also formed which worked energetically and rendered valuable service, especially in the matter of furnishing. They received much expert assistance from the Matron, Miss L. H. Hayes, who was able to give advice on professional details with which a lay Committee is naturally unacquainted. The Committee were fortunate in having the co-operation of so able a Matron at this time, and their indebtedness to Miss Hayes was commented on by the Duke of Abercorn, after the luncheon in the County Court House, at which he entertained some 150 ladies and gentlemen friends of the hospital, after the opening ceremony. The Duke also explained that he had taken the liberty of inviting them there on that occasion because it had been proposed by some that some entertainment should be given at the Hospital on the occasion of its being opened. To that he strongly objected, but seeing they would have no refreshment in the Hospital, he had taken the liberty of inviting them there that afternoon. The new Hospital, which stands on an elevated site, and has a fine view of the surrounding country, is a charming two-storied building, with gabled roof, and will accommodate 60 patients. The large wards are very bright and cheerful, there is good cross ventilation, and roomy bays at the southern end provide sunny quarters where the patients who are up can sit, and when they are permitted to be out of doors there are comfortable verandahs for them opening directly out of the wards. Stores for the linen, and for the patients' own clothes, are arranged close to the wards. The floor of the operating room is of granolithic concrete, and the walls and ceilings are of Keene's Parian cement, so that the whole can be washed. It is thoroughly up to date in its fittings, and there is an excellent light. Telephones have been installed between each ward and the doctor's house, the Matron's room and the kitchen. There is accommodation for seventeen nurses and probationers, and seven servants; and a small laundry and a mortuary are placed in a detached building, so that the whole arrangements are most complete.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Transvaal War Fund now amounts to nearly £330,000, and the Transvaal Refugees' Fund to about £170,000.

The anxiety of mind of the crowds who throng the War Office waiting for news of their friends and relatives in the front in South Africa is pitiful to behold, and forces home the conviction that the women as well as the men who are so closely affected by war should have a voice in determining whether or not it shall be engaged in. In the lobby reserved for ladies they throng; but there are no "scenes." Quiet, self-contained and sorrowful they wait, hour after hour, in tense expectation, for the posting of the list which will relieve their anxiety for the time being, or, maybe, deprive them for ever of their best beloved. If walls could speak the War Office would no longer appear dull and official, but the very air would throb with waves of anguish and bitterness of soul.

A correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* complains of the destructive and paralysing delay of the Local Government Board in dealing with the business of Boards of Guardians, and Urban and Rural Councils, asserting that it takes three or four months to get an answer to a letter, and that the work of hundreds of local governing bodies is years in arrears owing to the impossibility of getting the Local Government Board to hold inquiries, which, according to law must be held before necessary work is carried out.

The country no doubt appreciates that the work in Government offices where no one is on view before half-past eleven, and if one arrives at half-past three one is told it is "very late" to see anyone, is onerous in the extreme. Still, if it takes the Local Government Board three months to answer a letter it would be well to employ another clerk to relieve the pressure.

In view of the many new sanatoria which are now in prospect, the following reassuring resolution, passed by the Council of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, will be read by the general public with interest:—

"Having understood that apprehension is entertained as to the spread of consumption from sanatoria established for the treatment of this disease, the Council desire to express their opinion that there is no danger of communication from any well-conducted hospital for consumption or from any sanatorium where the open-air treatment for this disease is properly carried out; and further, that the inhabitants of houses in the immediate neighbourhood of such institutions are perfectly safe from local propagation from this source.

"(Signed) WILLIAM BROADBENT."

A bronze statue of Sir Sydney Waterlow is to be erected in Waterlow Park, Highgate, on a granite pedestal, to commemorate his generous gift of the Park to the public. Sir Sydney Waterlow is known to many nurses as the late Treasurer of S. Bartholomew's Hospital.

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