

necessarily take some time, as it has to be taken in or discharged through the large port-holes designed for receiving patients. The dining saloon has been so fitted up that it can be speedily transformed into an efficient hospital ward, and the dividing partitions of the cabins on either side of the saloon are so arranged that a passage can be formed from end to end of the compartments. Ambulance bearers will thus be able to bring the wounded men through port-holes six feet square and deposit them in a state-room close to the entrance-hall till they are able to convey them to their allotted cots without unnecessary delay.

\* \* \*

APARTMENTS have been designed at the stern of the ship which can be used as an infectious disease hospital, as all arrangements for an entirely distinct sanitary service have been made, while an effective system of ventilation has been secured by passing the foul air up through the main mast, which is a hollow steel one. In other parts of the ship the ventilation is so arranged that the vitiated air finds outlet in the funnel, special machinery being used for the purpose. But every odd corner of the vessel has been utilised for fitting the requirements of a thoroughly efficient hospital, everything being so ordered that no overcrowding takes place, and whatever is wanted can be reached without trouble. One special feature of these fittings is a medicine chest, which is erected between each set of berths. These two vessels, of course, carry the distinguishing flag and marks of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, but their purpose is unmistakably indicated by the large red cross, the international hospital sign, which is carried on each side of the funnel.

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THE Japanese Red Cross Society, with which rests the credit of having these vessels constructed, was founded some twenty-five years ago, and as long ago as 1883 entered the Geneva Convention. The Society owns hospitals in Tokio, which are under the patronage of the Empress of Japan, and it is not at all an infrequent occurrence to find ladies belonging to some of the noble families of Japan acting as nurses in these establishments. In the Chino-Japanese war the Marchioness Nabeshima was chief of the nursing staff, and her work among the wounded was seconded by other society ladies whose devotion to duty could not have been surpassed. Count Sano is the chairman of the society, and there are about three million members. The headquarters are in Tokio, and there are branches throughout the country, which are managed by the Board of Governors."

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Queen has sanctioned the appointment of two knights of grace, two ladies of grace, and one esquire to the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

Knights of Grace.—Surgeon-General William Taylor (from honorary associate); and the Marquis of Waterford.

Ladies of Grace.—Mary Caroline, Miss Coulcher (from honorary associate); and the Marchioness of Waterford.

Esquire.—Robert Charles Brown, M.B., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.

Charing Cross Hospital gave a hopeful report of its work at the Mansion House Meeting, over which the Lord Mayor presided. It was reported that a sum of £56,753 has been paid or promised up to date in response to the special appeal. Not only had old friends come forward, but new supporters had interested themselves in the movement to improve the building and put the institution on a thoroughly sound financial footing. City companies had been conspicuously generous, entertainments had been given in various quarters, and the great bazaar at the Royal Albert Hall produced a net profit of £15,000. Owing mainly to the large amount received from legacies during the last three years, not only had the ordinary expenditure for the maintenance of the hospital been met, but a debt of £17,000 had been cleared off. By an outlay of £18,000, the triangular space on which the institution stands, with the exception of that portion occupied by the Ophthalmic Hospital, was now available for the proposed improvements. The total required for the alterations was £75,000. The council had £22,000 in hand from the Appeal Fund, so that they must address themselves to the task of raising at least £50,000 more before their good work would be accomplished.

At the Quarterly Court of the London Hospital, it was stated that a number of the porters who were Army Reserve men had been called on to serve in South Africa, and that during their absence 10s. per week would be allowed their families. This is right; we hope, however, the Mansion House Fund will augment this allowance into a living wage.

A portrait of Dr. Collins, who was chairman of the London County Council in the Jubilee year, has been placed in the lobby at Spring Gardens. The picture was presented by 103 of Dr. Collins' colleagues.

Efforts with a view to check the spread of consumption are being vigorously started in Northamptonshire by the newly-formed branch of the National Society. Earl Spencer, K.G., the president, has made a special appeal to agriculturists to aid the movement by taking precautions against the spread of the scourge among their cattle, and his appeal comes with the weight of exceptional experience, seeing that not long ago when tuberculosis was prevalent among his fine herds of cows in Althorp Park he caused them to be destroyed.

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