

## The Hospital World.

### THE ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL, QUEEN'S SQUARE.

THE new Alexandra Hospital, Queen's Square, which was opened last week by T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, is a delightful building, and all concerned in its arrangement are to be heartily congratulated. The prevailing colour of the walls is pale green, of two shades, the effect being most pleasant and restful. The mantel pieces in the large wards are of marble and tiles, with oak shelf, the effect of those of red and white marble with blue tiles being especially excellent. The ground floor of the building is devoted to the Lady Superintendent's quarters, the nurses' dining room, the Board Room, Secretary's Office, and out-patient quarters. On the two next floors are long wards running the whole length of the building, which will each contain 20 beds, and at the back are smaller wards to contain 10 beds, these being heated by hot air. Between the two wards is a kitchen with doors opening into each. The floors of the wards are of blocks of oak. The lavatories are lined with white tiles, the paint, as in the rest of the building, being green. The floors are tessellated. On the floor above are bedrooms in the front, and, at the back over the smaller wards, is an isolation block containing two small wards, a tiny kitchen, and a room for the nurses. There is communication with the rest of the building by means of speaking tubes and an electric bell. Above this, again, are two floors, devoted to bedrooms for nurses and maids, plenty of box room accommodation being provided. From the top of the hospital an extensive view is obtained right away to Hampstead and Highgate, and the quiet all over the building, due, no doubt, to the fact that the Square is not a thoroughfare, is very noticeable.

One feature of the hospital which must attract every nurse who visits it is the ample cupboard accommodation. Well-arranged cupboards seem to have been fitted into every available space, the architect having wisely listened to the suggestion made by Miss Moore, the Lady Superintendent, as to the need for provision for storage. The basement is devoted to the kitchen, house-keeper's room, and stores rooms, and a small laundry is also arranged here. On the other side of the small piece of ground at the back of the hospital is a little mortuary, to the designing of which more attention has evidently been given than is usual. The exterior is ecclesiastical in appearance, the door in the centre opens directly into the mortuary proper, and behind, divided by sliding doors, is the post-mortem room.

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Prince of Wales, who, during his recent stay at Eastbourne, paid a surprise visit to the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, has promised to give a new operating table for the hospital theatre.

A meeting has been held at Lord Battersea's residence, Surrey House, Marble Arch, with the object of forming a ladies' association in connection with the Metropolitan Hospital in Kingsland Road. Amongst those present were the Countess of Malmesbury, Lady Battersea, and Lady Eden.

Lord Battersea, the treasurer of the hospital, presided, and pointed out that the hospital was situated in one of the poorest and most crowded parts of London. It, therefore, needed great support, and he hoped the ladies' association would be the means of considerably augmenting the income of the hospital. He announced that Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, had promised to be president of the association.

Mr. C. J. Thomas, chairman of the hospital, mentioned that the hospital cost annually a sum of £10,000. Increased support was very necessary.

In recognition of the deep interest shown by the Seamen's Hospital Society during the past few years in the welfare of American seamen, the Americans now visiting London have decided to organise an entertainment to take place early in September for the benefit of this National Marine Charity.

We regret to announce the death of the famous dog, Leo, belonging to the Women and Children's Hospital, Cork. Leo was well known in England. Of dignified demeanour, he was always to be seen on the streets, with his Alpine barrel slung round his neck, bent on errands of mercy as important as those of the great monastery dogs. He gathered over £1,000 for the hospital. Leo won the proud distinction of carrying off the cup offered by the Prince of Wales to the dog who collected the largest amount for a hospital, and he was also known to the Princess of Wales, who frequently petted him. He is succeeded in his benevolent exertions by his eldest son, Leo.

Plague is increasing in Poona, upwards of 100 cases occurring a day. Large numbers of the inhabitants are leaving the city.

The *British Medical Journal* asks:—"Where will the plague be in another five years?" "Will Europe," asks our contemporary, "be in the throes of an epidemic plague, with all its terrors to life and its dislocation of commerce? It is possible, perhaps even probable, that such will be the case." The chief danger to Europe is, it seems, from the countries adjacent to the Black Sea, and the latest news is that the malady is spreading along the Persian Gulf. There is nothing like being warned in time, and it is to be hoped that what can be done in the way of precautionary measures will be carried out.

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