

deceased turned along the passage to the lavatories witness rang an electric bell by the door for the nurses for help, but they were too late, the deceased having jumped through the window. Medical evidence having been given that the dressing of the patients should have been left to the day nurse, the coroner said it appeared that the nurse had quite misunderstood her duties, and the main question for the jury to consider was whether she had simply misunderstood them, or whether it was a case of gross carelessness. The jury were of opinion that the day and night nurses had done what they did in regard to the dressing of the patients in a spirit of friendliness, and returned a verdict that deceased committed suicide whilst of unsound mind.

Miss Mary Canning, whose methods of management of a private nursing home in London obtained considerable notoriety through the law courts, has once more been at variance with a patient in the Brighton County Court, this time on the question of fees for the services of nurses supplied. Miss Canning brought an action against the patient for the amount claimed, but lost the case, judgment being given for the defendant, with costs.

The Prussian State Railways have decided to adopt ambulance carriages on their lines, and seventy-seven are in course of preparation. They are to be distributed over the kingdom, and each one at its respective station will be under the superintendence of a railway medical officer with a special railway servant to have charge of cleaning and repairing the carriage and utensils, and to keep it in readiness to start at any moment should an accident occur on the line. The carriages will be of the corridor type, a large compartment to accommodate eight wounded lying down, and a sitting-room (which it is also proposed to use, if required, as an operating-room) for four slightly-injured persons. The latter will contain everything necessary for rendering first aid, but not for major operations, as a careful survey has proved that there is no point on the Prussian railways from which a hospital cannot be reached in an hour and a-half at the longest. The idea is excellent, but arrangements should be made for each ambulance to carry a trained nurse if the greatest possible benefit is to be derived from the provision.

We learn that much pleasure was given at the London Homœopathic Hospital a short time ago by a visit from the Maharajah of Kolopur and his suite. The Maharajah, who showed the greatest interest in his visit, subsequently sent by his physician a donation of £15 to be expended on the children's ward, and the little patients have in consequence of this kind gift enjoyed tea parties, drives and visits to the Zoo, with rides on the elephants and other delights.

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The King has been pleased to create a new Civil Order of Distinction, designated "The Imperial Service Order," by which His Majesty hopes to recognise more fully than has hitherto been possible the meritorious services of members of the Civil Services of the various parts of the Empire.

The Executive Committee of the Cancer Research Fund, under the direction of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of London and Surgeons, London, has decided to invite applications for the post of general superintendent of cancer investigation. The duties of the office will include: (1) The general direction of laboratory investigation; (2) the supervision of workers appointed by or receiving grants from the committee; (3) the collection of statistical, dietetic, topographical, and other information; (4) the organisation of a system of correspondence with home, colonial, Indian, and foreign laboratories and workers; (5) attendance at the meetings of the Executive Committee or any committees appointed by them for special purposes relating to the investigation. The general superintendent may also be appointed director of the central laboratory.

Messrs. N. M. Rothschild and Sons have given £1,000 and the Leathersellers Company £250 towards the £100,000 required for cancer research.

Mr. Seddon, Premier of New Zealand, has cabled home the announcement that of four exhibitions and gold medals offered at the recent intermediate examination in medicine of the University of London, three have been secured by New Zealanders studying at Guy's Hospital.

It is reported that in consequence of the overcrowding and deficient hospital arrangements on the transport *Drayton Grange*, a mutiny was narrowly averted. The men slept on tables and on the gangways. Others were forced to tramp the decks nightly. A hospital which was improvised was not watertight. In it were packed fifteen unfortunate men, elbowing their way to delirium and death.

The medical man in charge of the patients has since reported that the supply of medicines was quite inadequate, so that they had to be diluted, thereby being rendered ineffective, but it was necessary to make the patients believe that something was being done for them! We are glad that there is to be an inquiry into the matter. It is an ill return for the services rendered to the Empire by the colonial troops if the circumstances are as alleged.

Earl Carrington, in the House, asked the Under-Secretary of State for War for information as to the registered tonnage of the transport. When she left Durban for the purpose of conveying certain Australian troops to their homes the men were in very good con-

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