

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Sir Thomas Barlow last week distributed the medal and certificates gained by the students at the National Dental Hospital and College, Great Portland Street. The Dean, Mr. Sydney Spokes, who presided, said it was matter for congratulation that dental bacteriology had been added to the list of subjects taught at the college. Sir Thomas Barlow congratulated the students on the school they possessed, the teachers who instructed them, and the recognition which dental surgery had recently received. Also on the addition of the department of bacteriology to their curriculum. He begged them to think not merely of the material rewards of their profession, but to be naturalists to the end of their days and to study the nature of the diseases of the teeth.

In the unavoidable absence of Lord Derby, the Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Alderman Petrie) on Monday opened a consumption hospital at Heswall on the open-air principle, the first, it is claimed, yet erected in this country for pauper patients. Miss Bateson has been appointed Matron.

At a special meeting of the board of management of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, the position of the board in regard to the future management of the institution was considered. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That the whole board of management as now constituted resign and vacate office on November 13th next, and that a special general meeting of trustees be held in the board-room of the Infirmary on Friday, November 14th, at 11 a.m., for the election of a new board of management."

At a special general meeting of the Trustees, a thoroughly kindly feeling was expressed at the meeting towards the members of the old board, and it was agreed that every effort should be made to put forward or incorporate in the reconstituted board as many of the former members as possible, consistent with carrying out the policy adopted by the Trustees at their recent meeting, namely, to build a new Infirmary at Stanley Grove, unless a better site can be obtained, and to realise the present site to the best advantage.

British manufacturers have so often encountered serious difficulties in preventing fraudulent misuse of their trade marks and names in Italy that we are specially glad to learn that Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., the well-known manufacturers, have been successful in defending in the Italian courts their registered trade mark, "TABLOID," against infringement. The action brought by this firm against three defendants, all of Milan, was first heard in the Civil and Penal Tribunal of Milan, and decided in favour of the plaintiffs. A perpetual injunction was granted, and damages and costs awarded to them. The defendants appealed, and the Royal Appeal Court at Milan have now confirmed the sentence. Thus not only has justice been done to a firm of world-wide renown for the excellence of their goods and the convenience of their preparations in tabloid form, but the case is one also of great commercial importance.

Letter from Holland.

THE CARE OF THE INSANE.



It is matter for congratulation that the nursing of the insane has made great progress in Holland during the last fifty years. Compared with the usual conditions of our lunatic asylums half a century ago, I should almost feel inclined to say that the present state of things is an ideal one. But that is, of course, only comparatively speaking. We all know but too well that perfection in this respect is by no means attained, that a great amount of work in this direction still lies before us, and this conviction will spur us on to persevere the more in our efforts. The *Wilhelmina Association*, founded nearly five years ago, aims at the reform and elevation of mental nursing. It devotes itself to furthering the interests of male and female nurses who have given themselves to this branch of nursing in Holland and its colonies, and more especially to those working in lunatic asylums. The Association strives to achieve its aim in different ways: by finding and helping persons with vocations for the work; by organising special training in mental nursing; by building homes for male and female nurses who are in need of rest; and by affording help to mental nurses in illness and old age.

True to its principles, the *Wilhelmina Association* has already accomplished many good and useful things during the first five years of its existence. The preliminary training-school for mental nurses in the *Wilhelmina Home* was opened last year at Amsterdam, and has given satisfactory results. Miss *Ida Tack* is charged with the supervision of the Home. This is not an easy task, and needs a great deal of tact and insight, patience, kindness, and firmness. Miss *Tack*, however, proves to be the right woman in the right place. She has the faculty of discovering whether the candidates who are placed under her care, that they may prepare themselves for mental nursing work, are gifted with qualities of heart and mind requisite in persons who are to deal with the insane, and her quick and critical eye is able to discriminate between the chaff and the wheat.

The curriculum of the training received by the pupils in the *Wilhelmina Home* includes the completion of their ordinary education, instruction in various household matters, needlework, knitting, &c. They are also taught the best methods of keeping their future patients busy.

The training is given gratuitously. The *Wilhelmina Home*, however, aims at more than this. Its sphere of operation is not restricted to the training-school. It also provides a home of rest for Sisters who are overstrained physically or mentally, or who are without engagements for a longer or shorter time. The Matron of the Home also keeps a register, in which are noted the names of male and female mental nurses working in the different lunatic asylums, so that she may be able to afford information concerning them if necessary.

And last, not least—but here one must speak very

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