

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Local Government Board state that they have not sanctioned the inclusion of phthisis among the diseases compulsorily notifiable, as it is not a disease to which the principle of compulsory notification can with advantage be applied.

The subscription in the Stock Exchange in aid of the London Hospital reached in one week the splendid total of £13,049.

The Hon. Stephen Coleridge and the Hon. Sydney Holland periodically exchange amenities on the question of whether medical schools should be subsidised by charitable contributions. Both these gentlemen express opinions which claim sympathy. Mr. Coleridge claims that if so subsidised the annual reports of the hospitals should plainly show how the money is spent—here he is right—and Mr. Holland claims that all forms of education require endowment, and for the £2,000 annual subscription to the London Hospital Medical College the hospital benefits enormously. Of course it does; and as expert medical lecturers and teachers are worthy of high salaries, why not define such salaries, and include them in the financial statement in the annual report? The day has gone by when the services of eminent medical men in relation to the voluntary hospitals can claim to be honorary. Office is worth hard cash, and the keen competition for appointment on to hospital staffs proves that medical men realise these appointments as valuable professional assets, irrespective of lecturers' fees. Why should the medical profession alone affect to despise payment? No other profession is injured by receiving just remuneration for expert work.

The new Military Hospital now being erected on part of the site of the old Millbank Prison will afford largely increased accommodation for soldier patients, and will be greatly in advance of the Rochester Row Hospital in respect of compliance with modern requirements. The hospital, which will afford room for some 200 beds, will soon be finished. It includes six separate blocks of buildings, carried out in red bricks, with string courses and dressings of sandstone, much after the style of St. Thomas's Hospital, and, as in the case of that great institution, there is provided suitable covered communication between the component blocks of the hospital. When the Millbank building is completed the patients in the Rochester Row Hospital will be removed to it, but the latter institution will still be maintained for military patients, for whom in London the accommodation has long been unsatisfactory and insufficient.

We may be thankful that politics do not enter into the management of hospitals in this country. For months a newly-erected hospital in Melbourne remained empty and unused while pressing need existed for it, and this extraordinary state of things was due entirely to a change of Government. The hospital had been erected at a cost of £19,000 to celebrate the

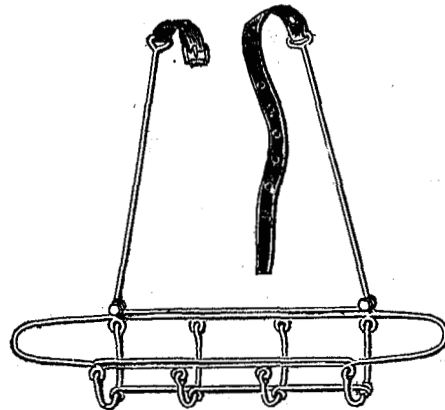
Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, and the Government promised a grant of £4,000 towards the furnishing of the institution. On the strength of this promise a local bank undertook to advance the money, and then, before the arrangement could be completed, the Government was defeated; and matters reached a deadlock.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller, of Chicago, has announced his intention of spending 7,000,000 dols. (about £1,450,000) in efforts to discover a cure for consumption. His plans for a Medical Department of the University of Chicago, following on the annexation of the Rush Medical College, involve an elaborate scheme for a great research hospital.

Mr. Rockefeller made it known to the trustees of the University at a recent meeting that he did not care so much for the number of doctors the Rush Medical College could put out in the world as to evolve men who would go into original research to find cures for stubborn diseases, particularly consumption. His acceptance of the proposition made by the College was conditional upon the establishment of a post-graduate institution on University lines. This institution will be constructed upon the cottage hospital plan, one entire division of which will be devoted to efforts to discover a tuberculosis serum.

Wire Arm-Slings.

We have recently had a new and very useful form of arm-sling made of "telegraph wire" submitted to us. The slings are very light and comfortable, and at the same time afford more firm support to the limb



One form of splint. The closed-in ends telescope, so that it is adjustable for a long or short forearm.

than the ordinary silk handkerchief sling can possibly do. Moreover, they possess the cardinal advantages of being more cleanly and less heating than the latter arrangement. The slings are made in various shapes and sizes, and are supported by means of a strap fitting over the shoulders and attached to two upright pieces of wire, as shown in the illustration. They can be obtained from Mr. Percival Turner, 4 and 5, Adam Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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