

their dead, but it has under a peristyle a plate-glass sarcophagus into which the body is placed. The visitor standing in the open air can thus see the dead, but cannot come into actual contact with the body.

Describing the Frimley Sanatorium, Mr. Hall said: "I have tried to get away from the hospital and to suggest breeziness and health and the pleasant atmosphere of a large home. My first design was for putting the eighty-eight patients in single rooms, but this was overruled. For the King's Sanatorium, however, my original plan was shown to His Majesty and to Sir Ernest Cassel and the committee came to the same conclusion as that I originally contemplated."

OPEN-AIR TREATMENT.

The great aim at Frimley is to get the patients into the open air for recreation and not to encourage them to remain within. Beds can be wheeled on to the terrace, and at each extremity of the pavilion there is a sun room.

The Camberwell Infirmary, Brunswick Square, Mr. Hall regards as a general hospital, with accommodation for 800 patients and a staff of 160. Accident and acute cases of all kinds are treated in the building, and a large ward on the top floor has been specially designed for consumptive patients. Provision is made for open-air treatment, and on the flat roof patients may spend all the day with something of interest to see in the panorama stretching across London.

Mr. Hall regards the superior accommodation now given to the staff at the Camberwell building as one of the greatest modern improvements. His lecture, which naturally included a mass of technical detail, pointed to the imperative necessity of large and carefully-selected sites being chosen for hospitals, not only as a means of securing architectural beauty, but also for the purpose of ensuring administrative efficiency and the more speedy recovery of the patients.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The fourteenth International Medical Congress was opened on April 23rd in the Royal Theatre, Madrid, by King Alfonso. There was a very large assemblage of medical men of all nations, and they gave the young King a very enthusiastic reception.

The reception of the members of the Congress at the Palace was a brilliant affair, a large and distinguished crowd filling the many splendid saloons. The members of the Royal family, accompanied by the chief functionaries of the Palace and the Ministers, were accorded a warm reception by the delegates, who were presented by the Ambassadors and Ministers of their respective countries. On Saturday some of the delegates visited the military hospital at Carabanchal, and in the evening there was a reception at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha laid the foundation-stone of the Royal Victoria Memorial Cottage Hospital at Nice on Monday.

July will be a bad month for fires in London. They will not have a chance. The Grand International

Fire Brigades Council will, at the invitation of the British Fire Prevention Committee, hold its biennial meeting in London on July 11th, in connection with the International Fire Prevention Congress, and most of the members of the Council are coming. The Council comprises representatives of Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Roumania, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States. There are some fifty of them.

Sir Henry Thompson is in favour of a system of State support and control for the voluntary hospitals.

Sir Charles Seely has been re-elected President of the General Hospital, Nottingham, for the fifth time. It is greatly owing to his munificence that the work of the institution has been carried out on wonderfully progressive lines.

Thirty thousand pounds has been specified as the amount requisite before the Committee of the Women's Hospital at Sparkhill can proceed with their rebuilding scheme. A sum of £4,000, it appears, remains to be contributed. Moreover, according to a statement made by Mr. J. S. Nettlefold at the annual meeting, the expenditure is likely to be nearer forty than thirty thousand pounds. Plans were presented showing that in design the new hospital will be simple yet commodious; indeed, the executive aim at having the finest hospital of the kind in point of equipment to be found in the kingdom. The site chosen is at the rear of the Sparkhill Police Station adjacent to a park, and within a short distance of the present hospital. There will be accommodation for fifty beds in the hospital, and eleven more in the convalescent home adjoining, with adequate provision for the nursing staff.

Last year there were 426 in-patients, and of these 412 were operated upon. The abdominal sections performed were 234, an increase of 21 on 1901, and the largest number in any year since the hospital was founded. Of these 234 cases, 231 recovered from the operation, giving a rate of mortality of only 1.28 per cent., as compared with 4.2 per cent. in the previous year. These figures, the Lord Mayor thought, reflected the greatest possible credit upon the medical and nursing staffs, and would be of the utmost service to the committee in furtherance of their appeal to the public for subscriptions towards the rebuilding fund.

Mr. Nettlefold put the matter in a very striking light when he said that the reduction in the death-rate from the 60 per cent. death-rate recorded at the time of the founding of the hospital represented a saving of 1,935 lives. This had been accomplished with a comparatively small outlay of money. Mrs. Beale spoke of the uphill fight which the Committee had had at the start, and Mrs. George Cadbury made a particular appeal to the folk living in large houses at Edgbaston, whose names never appeared in the subscription lists of charitable institutions. On the work of the Convalescent Home Mrs. James spoke in an interesting vein. One case mentioned in the report was that of a woman who had been an invalid all her life, but who, after a successful operation at the hospital and a prolonged convalescence, was completely restored to health, being now enabled to support herself independently.

An interesting historical sketch of the hospitals of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries was given last

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