

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Amongst the latest contributions to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London is the sum of £25, being the annual subscription of the Queen.

The honorary secretaries of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London have received at the Bank of England a gift of £3,000 from Sir Charles Tennant towards the Capital Fund.

The King and Queen, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and a number of the guests at Chatsworth, paid a visit to the Devonshire Hospital at Buxton last Saturday. The Duke of Devonshire had preceded his Royal guests, and, as president of the hospital, welcomed their Majesties and presented Dr. Turner (senior honorary surgeon) and Miss Hyland (the Matron). As the Royal visitors entered the hospital the patients joined in the singing of the National Anthem. Led by Dr. Turner and accompanied by the Committee of Management, the party went through the day-rooms and wards. The Devonshire Hospital, which is an imposing building, has a dome that forms a landmark for miles round. There is accommodation for 300 patients in the institution, which is more especially adapted for the treatment of rheumatic and kindred diseases. The hospital was founded by the Cavendish family, whose members have always been among its most generous supporters. Their Majesties showed much interest in the work of the institution, the King and the Duke of Devonshire conversing with Dr. Turner, while the Queen talked to Miss Hyland.

Acton's new isolation hospital, erected at a cost of about £25,000 on land purchased from the Goldsmiths' Company in Willesden Lane, adjoining the Acton Station of the Great Western Railway, has just been completed. The institution, fitted with up-to-date appliances, provides accommodation for thirty-two patients. Miss H. A. Amos, of the Borough Hospital, Bolton, is the first Matron.

Fresh instructions have been given as to the eligibility of patients applying for admission to the Convalescent Home for Officers at Osborne. Hitherto Osborne has been intended only for Navy and Army officers convalescent from disease or injury acquired in the service of the country; but it has now been decided to set apart a small number of beds for certain cases requiring treatment. By the term "convalescent patient" is meant those requiring no active or systematic treatment, and who need only rest, quiet, suitable diet, and fresh air to complete their recovery. Ten beds will in future be reserved for cases requiring definite treatment, admission to these being restricted to cases of unhealed wounds, cases requiring treatment by massage, and cases not coming into the previous categories which may be considered by the consulting physician or surgeon on duty to be suitable for treatment at Osborne.

Sir John Rolleston, M.P., the arbitrator in the claim for compensation brought by the trustees of St.

Thomas's Hospital against the War Office for the compulsory acquirement of 289 acres 3 roods 4 poles of land, part of the Aveley Hall Estate, Essex, for the purposes of the new rifle range, has published his award at £46,725. The expert valuations handed in on both sides during the hearing of the arbitration ranged from £23,107 to £85,164.

The new out-patients' department, which has been in course of erection since the spring, at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children, Dyke Road, Brighton, is now so rapidly approaching completion that in about six weeks' time the hospital staff will be in full possession of the new building.

The Earl of Mansfield has promised to contribute £1,000 to the fund for erecting a sanatorium for consumptives at Dumfries, and Mr. Younger, M.P., of Auchlen Castle, has offered £500. The total cost is estimated at £8,000.

Under the will of the late Mr. William Ansell, of Wyde Green, Sutton Coldfield, the greater portion of the Birmingham charities benefit, the total amount bequeathed for charitable purposes being £5,000. The General Hospital will benefit to the extent of £1,250, and the Queen's Hospital gets £500; £250 goes to the Dispensary, and the Children's Hospital and the Lying-In Charity receive £200 each. The Aston Manor Nursing Institution will receive £1,000, and sums of £100 and £50 will in due course be forwarded to several other most deserving charities.

A scathing report has been issued by the Local Government Board on the Dewsbury sanitary authority, dealing with the small-pox epidemic. It describes the condition of the hospital, which is outrageously overcrowded, as altogether shocking.

For the second time within a month, Grimsby Workhouse has been isolated on account of diphtheria. Outsiders are not permitted to enter, and inmates and staff are not allowed leave of absence.

The Japanese have been busy disinfecting Port Arthur, which they found full of typhus and other contagious diseases. No doubt these energetic and systematic people will soon have health and good order restored in that fateful spot.

The *Andromeda* incident is so like us. Without consulting the Japanese, off start the whole *personnel*, doctors and nurses, of the Government Hospital at Wei-hai-Wei for Port Arthur, with tons of stores and other things for the benefit of the Russian wounded. We courted the snub direct, and we got it in the refusal of the Japanese to permit the *Andromeda* to discharge her cargo. The right thing to have done was to offer the material to the Japanese authorities, and let them distribute the gift. The Japs have proved quite equal to the occasion throughout the war, and in need of no outside interference, and they are not a bit pleased with the fact that the Baltic Fleet has been steaming ahead on British coal. They have yet to learn that *inesse* is not a British characteristic.

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