

ago than the convenient offices which are now attached to the wards of recently-built hospitals. Linen room, larder, bathroom and other offices are all to be found at the entrance to the ward. The bathrooms in the present instance are especially delightful, lined with white tiles throughout, and with white baths they are models of dainty cleanliness.

Besides the general wards there are others of two and five beds each, where patients drawn from a certain radius can be received on payment of 12s. per week, and two other single rooms into which private patients are admitted on the payment of £3 3s. to £5 5s., a great advantage to the public.

The Santa Claus Society.

An admirable society, bringing gladness to many at this Christmas season, is the Santa Claus Society, which was founded twenty-one years ago by three sisters, two of whom—Miss Henrietta F. and Miss Janie F. Charles, of Highgate—still carry it on. It began in quite a small way amongst the members of a working party to send clothes for the grown-ups, and dolls to children at Christmas time. This year the gifts are now being divided, and so wide is the response to Santa Claus' demands that the Christmas gifts will be distributed in about thirty hospitals and infirmaries, as well as in many poor parishes. At St. Bartholomew's, St. Mary's, University and King's College Hospitals, the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway Road, the Tottenham Hospital, the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland Road, the North-Eastern Children's Hospital, Hackney, the National Orthopædic Hospital, the Homes for Incurable Children at Leonard Square and Edgware, and at the North-West London Hospital Santa Claus hopes by the hands of many willing workers who distribute the gifts in person to send something to every patient. He also sends to certain wards in the Holborn, St. Pancras, and Lambeth Infirmaries, as well as to many smaller homes.

The gifts sent to him for distribution have this year been remarkably good, thoroughly useful warm clothing, stationery boxes, work bags, good readable books for adults, and toys and scrapbooks for the children.

An important branch of the Santa Claus work was the outcome of a suggestion made in the first report, "Why should Santa Claus be idle in the summer?" so a convalescent branch was started, and this year alone 130 convalescents were sent away for change. They have to be recommended by some responsible person who knows them, and the society is often able to help cases which otherwise would not have the chance of change after illness. In all, over 2,600 convalescents have benefited by the kindly aid of Santa Claus.

The Society secures the aid of those who can only send a mickle as well as a muckle. Many hands make light work. They make also the possibility of bringing happiness and brightness into many a life. Those who desire to know more of the work of this useful Society should obtain its interesting Annual Report from the Managers and Hon. Secretaries, the Misses Charles, 34, South Grove, Highgate, London, N.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Duke of Connaught will preside at a Fête in aid of King's College Hospital Removal Fund, to be given in Lincoln's Inn Hall and grounds on May 23rd, 24th, and 25th.

The Duchess of Connaught has consented to open a grand bazaar, which is being arranged by the Ladies' Association of the Great Northern Central Hospital, for the

purpose of raising at least £10,000 to provide a much-needed convalescent home for the patients of that institution. The bazaar will take place early in June of next year in the West End of London.

There was a very large attendance at the annual general meeting of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund at the Mansion House on Monday, and the Hon. Stephen Coleridge and the Hon. Sydney Holland crossed swords over the question of the subsidisation of the medical schools from charitable funds. The former considered that the two hospitals (the London and Middlesex), which had invited the transfer of subscriptions from the hospital to the medical school, were evading the spirit of the law laid down by the King's Hospital Fund. He proposed (1) "That no hospital which makes a grant to a school from its resources for any purpose whatever shall receive any money from this fund"; and (2) "that no hospital shall receive a contribution from this fund whose managers have invited its subscribers to transfer their subscriptions to any other object than the general funds of the hospital until the subscriptions so transferred to any other account have been re-transferred to the general funds of the hospital." The resolutions were strongly opposed by Mr. Holland, who doubted very much whether any resolution moved by Mr. Coleridge could possibly be in order! After which pleasantries the meeting proceeded to defeat the resolutions.

In this connection St. George's Hospital has taken the right and honourable course by the institution of a Medical School Endowment Fund, which we are glad to note is being handsomely supported. The Prince of Wales has contributed £100, Dr. Robert Barnes £1,000, and Mr. Clinton Dent, F.R.C.S. has promised an annual subscription of £100. Let those hospitals whose medical schools are not self-supporting follow the good example of St. George's.

We must correct a printer's error in our last issue, in which it was mentioned that the rebuilding operations at the London Hospital had been completed at a cost of £45,000. The fact is that the thorough re-organisation of the London Hospital, together with annexes and new Nurses' Home, has cost £450,000—a lordly sum, yet well spent—and when we learn that the whole of this magnificent sum of money has been donated for building purposes and not a penny

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