

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Lord Mayor has received a cheque from the Chief Rabbi for £1,161 19s. 7d. for the Hospital Sunday Fund, being the amount collected in the various Synagogues of London, in addition to the collections already received from the West End Synagogue (£269) and the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue (£180). The total is now nearly £60,000, to which Mr. George Herring will add about £12,000, making together £72,000.

The Finance Committee of the London County Council point out that the ambulance scheme is only of a tentative and provisional nature, and as it would cost £9,600 annually, they think the Council will do well to postpone the inauguration of the new service. There is no doubt that the enormous rise in the metropolitan rates is becoming a burning question with householders.

The establishment of a hospital for animals which has for some time past been under the consideration of "Our Dumb Friends' League," will, it is hoped, shortly be accomplished. The committee have acquired the lease of suitable premises in the neighbourhood of Victoria Station, and every effort is now being made to raise sufficient funds to open the hospital for animal patients. Towards the purchase of the lease, two donations, one of £400 and another of £100, have been received, but the committee consider the sum of £5,000 should be raised before the scheme is put into operation. The hospital itself will be worked on similar lines to the existing hospitals for human beings, with "wards" for various animals. A need exists for such an institution, and to the poor man who depends upon a pony or donkey for his living the benefits of the hospital will be invaluable. A convalescent home in the country will surely be a necessary adjunct to any such scheme, as fresh air and space to move about are essential for sick animals.

The twelfth annual meeting of the governors of the National Society for Employment of Epileptics was recently held at the London offices, Denison House, Westminster. The chair was taken by Mr. E. Montefiore Micholls, and the reports of the honorary medical staff and the executive committee for the year 1904 were received and adopted. From the former report it appears that the general health of the colonists during the year was very good. There was entire freedom from any epidemic or contagious disease, and only two colonists died during the year. Medicinal remedies, it is pointed out, form only one item in the treatment of this malady, the most complete treatment being that which is carried out in such institutions as the Chalfont colony, "where the epileptic is guided along hygienic lines in respect of the suitable quantity and quality of food, the proper allotment of work and rest, and the carrying out of those physical exercises consistent with the malady." The report of the executive committee shows the past year to have been one of great progress and extension, a new home for the special benefit of Hampshire cases having been opened during the year, and also an administrative house

and various other buildings. Notwithstanding these additions, however, the accommodation is stated to be still entirely insufficient to meet the demand for admission, especially as regards the women's department, where the congestion of applications is so great that unless additional accommodation is provided each applicant will have to wait several years before her turn for admission will come, the malady in the meantime becoming hopelessly confirmed, so that the remedial aims of the colony would, to a great extent, be defeated.

The need for a new kind of road grows more and more pressing. The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, presiding at the annual meeting of the Birmingham Eye Hospital, said that what struck him particularly about the report was the fact that 8,428 persons had during the year had "bits" removed from their eyes. Whilst driving along the Bristol Road the day before he noticed that everyone who passed, whether motorist, cyclist, or pedestrian, seemed to have either dust or an insect in his eye.

Mrs. Buckley, the widow of the late Dr. H. Child Buckley, formally opened the children's ward at the Lilanely Hospital on Saturday afternoon. This addition to the well-equipped institution has been erected by Mrs. Buckley. Only subscribers to the hospital were present, and they were subsequently entertained at a garden party.

It is only a little over two months since the new Cameron Hospital at West Hartlepool was opened for the admission of patients, but so great have been the demands upon the institution that the managers have decided to increase the accommodation from twenty-five to forty beds, which is the number originally intended for the hospital. The additional fifteen beds, which will be set apart for male patients, will be provided by converting the present women's ward on the ground floor into one for men, and utilising two spacious rooms on the first floor for women. This will, of course, mean a heavy increase in the cost of maintenance, and the managers are now in need of a larger share of public support.

A site of nearly four and a-half acres, facing Combermere Barracks, has been secured from the Crown on which to build the new hospital at Windsor.

The Ladies' Committee of the Edinburgh Lying-in Institution and Nursing Home, which was founded in 1820, are doing a very useful work. This institution has been known for many years, its object being to give attendance and help to poor respectable married women in Edinburgh at time of confinement, by providing them with the attendance of nurses and all necessaries required at such a time, free of all charge, at their own homes. The institution, to meet the requirements of an apparently increasing demand, and with a desire to increase its good work, decided some time ago to acquire increased accommodation, so as to be able to accommodate at the "Home" those patients who did not wish gratuitous attendance at their own homes, but who preferred to become indoor patients, and pay a small fee for their own attendance and nursing. There are a few private rooms in another part of the building as well, for patients who can afford a larger fee. Any profits which may arise from this work are all applied to the funds of the charity—namely, the Edinburgh Lying-in Institution.

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