

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

A cheque for £10,000 made payable to the capital fund of King Edward's Hospital Fund has been received by the Treasurer.



King's College Council have accepted the resignation of Professor T. C. Hayes, M.D., of the Chair of Obstetric Medicine and Diseases of Women and Children, and have appointed Dr. John Phillips as his successor and Dr. G. F. Still as Professor of Diseases of Children at King's College Hospital. The Council have also appointed Dr. W. E. Dixon, of Downing College, Cambridge, to the Chair of Materia Medica and Pharmacology, and elected Dr. Frank E. Taylor as Demonstrator of Bacteriology.

The Local Government Board have written, informing the Metropolitan Asylums Board that they have carefully considered the subject of the suggested establishment by the managers of sanatoria for the treatment of patients suffering with consumption, and add "That the information at present before them does not appear to afford sufficient justification for the heavy outlay which would be involved in the proposal."

The Queen's Jubilee Hospital, Earl's Court, is henceforth to be known as the Kensington General Hospital.

The Police and Sanitary Committee of the House of Commons have sanctioned the proposals of the London County Council as to the provision of efficient ambulances. The Council proposes to deal with the matter first in a tentative way by establishing two stations with properly equipped ambulances propelled by mechanical, and, it is hoped, by electrical power and with an adequate staff. They propose also to erect standposts in the streets in telephonic communication with the stations, so that the ambulances, can be brought expeditiously to any point where they are required. The stations will be established, one near St. Thomas's Hospital and the other at Charing Cross, and will serve a radius of one or, at the most, two miles.

It is scarcely conceivable that even in Russia sick people should be placed in chains, but it is reported that when an outbreak of fire occurred last week at the Dutyrki Prison in Moscow there were twenty-eight political prisoners in the surgical ward of the infirmary who were seriously ill, most of whom were chained to their beds. The ward, the windows of which had iron bars, was soon enveloped in flames. Eventually the patients were rescued by the fire brigade, but all were severely burned, and most unconscious.

Typhus fever in a virulent form is at present raging in several towns in the West of Ireland, and already there have been many victims.

The Central Midwives' Board.

A meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, on Thursday, March 29th. Dr. Champneys presided, and all the members of the Board, with the exception of Dr. Dakin, were present.

It was reported that the Lord President of the Council had reappointed Miss Wilson and Sir William Sinclair members of the Board for a period of three years, that Dr. Champneys had been re-elected to represent the College of Physicians for one year, Mr. Ward Cousins the College of Surgeons, Mr. Parker Young the Society of Apothecaries, and Dr. Dakin the Midwives' Institute for the same period, and Mrs. Latter the Royal British Nurses' Association for three years.

Letters were considered from Dr. Meredith Young, Medical Officer of Health for Stockport, asking for information as to the proceedings of the Board so far as they affect local supervising authorities. It was agreed to give such information on application. Sir William Sinclair hoped difficulties would not be put in the way for the sake of a little printing.

Dr. J. Ernest Nevins, Liverpool, wrote raising certain points as to the training of midwives, and the construction of the rules relating thereto. Sir William Sinclair said the questions asked illustrated his objection to the recognition of a certain class of man as a teacher of midwifery. "You can't supply them with common sense." The Board directed that a reply should be sent to Dr. Nevins that the answer to some of his questions were to be found in the rules. In other cases the exact routine of treatment was not prescribed. The examiners used their own judgment.

The Financial Statement and the Auditor's Report were then received, showing that the Board has at present £5,000 invested and £1,200 on deposit. The Report of the Meeting of the Examiners, recently held at the Caxton Hall, raised some discussion. Mr. Parker Young thought that on a future occasion no member of the Board should be present, so that the Examiners might have freedom of discussion. Dr. Champneys, who attended the meeting at the request of the Board, and was in the chair, said that he thought his presence there had been of considerable use, that he had offered to retire at any time, but the Examiners expressed their pleasure at his presence, and that he had been thanked by the meeting for the help he had afforded. He thought Mr. Parker Young's apprehensions were not founded on fact. He hoped if a similar meeting were held a member of the Board would again be present. Sir William Sinclair said he had subsequently heard opinions expressed most complimentary to the Chairman.

The addition of Cardiff to the provincial examining centres was discussed, in connection with the bi-lingual difficulty, and was referred to the Standing Committee. Sir William Sinclair, commenting on the voting, said that it might be convenient to point out that the majority consisted of members of the Board not belonging to the medical profession, who had voted against the proposition.

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