

The Nurses' Hostel Company, Ltd.

The annual meeting of this Company was held at the Hostel, Francis Street, W.C., on Friday, 25th ult. Mr. Lionel Earle was in the chair, and the report was adopted. An attempt was made to make Miss Hulme the scapegoat for the displeasing announcement that no dividend could be paid this year, and exception was taken to this by Miss Gosling. Miss Grace Steuart, a member of the company, had sent a letter to the Chairman, to be read at the meeting, but, when called for, the Chairman refused to read it, as he considered it would only raise and renew the controversy of last year, and that it could do no good. The rest of the business was hurried through with great rapidity, Mrs. Arthur Walrond being elected a director to succeed the late General Sir Allan Johnson. As Miss C. J. Wood, the managing director, and Miss Nancy Paul, hold so many of the Company's shares and votes, their policy must remain paramount in the conduct of the Hostel's affairs. As the year's lesson has been "rows and no dividend," the majority of the shareholders kept silence. As Miss Grace Steuart's letter was suppressed at the meeting, she has sent it with the request that it may be published in this Journal, and it will be found in the correspondence columns.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Princess Henry of Battenberg paid a visit to Rugby last Saturday and opened a new Children's Ward in the local hospital, which affords accommodation for fourteen beds, and has cost £6,240 to build. There was an offering of children's purses towards the funds, and the whole hospital was en fête for the occasion, the comfortable appearance of the patients and brightness of the nursing staff coming in for many compliments.

The ratepayers of Camberwell should welcome the advent of the new King's College Hospital, as it is stated that the ultimate effect upon the rates when the hospital is established will mean a yearly saving of £10,000 to the poor rates. As the site is over three miles from either of the nearest hospitals, St. Thomas's and Guy's, all the accident cases have had to be taken to the infirmary, where there are only 800 beds. For many years the expense of this has fallen on the guardians, and it is calculated that it has meant an additional 2d. on the rates. This is, therefore, one of the great rea-

sons why the mayor has helped to organise the bazaar in aid of the removal fund.

The bazaar which the Duke and Duchess of Connaught opened at Camberwell Baths on the 29th ult., had a distinctive air of its own. It has already been called "the bazaar of all creeds and politics," this because the Mayor of Camberwell has induced people of all grades of religious and political thought to take part in it. The official name of the bazaar is "Ye Olde Camberwell Fayre," and the large room was transformed into a realistic representation of a street in old London. The old stocks and pillory were to be seen, and certain desperate "vagrants" undertook to appeal from their ignominious positions to the charity of the passers-by.

The health and physique of London School Children is a matter dealt with at length in the report of Dr. Kerr, medical officer to the Education Committee of the London Council. At the present time a detailed inspection is impossible, but some attempt has been made to ascertain what the medical inspection which has now been made compulsory by Act of Parliament is likely to mean. One thing which is already apparent is the effect of environment, slum children at five years of age being a sturdier, quicker race than more carefully nurtured children who have not been exposed to hard climatic conditions. Slum children are a survival of the fittest. Dr. Kerr is of opinion that general medical inspection means the establishment of school clinics.

The London Provident Dispensaries Council has lately been formed, with Mr. Henry A. Harben as chairman, as the outcome of a conference of the Provident Dispensaries of London. Its objects are to circulate information on the provident medical movement among the medical profession and the public at large, and to promote the establishment over the whole area of London of well-equipped and well-regulated provident dispensaries. It will also endeavour to promote that co-operation between these dispensaries and hospitals which is essential for the relief of the out-patient departments of the latter institutions. It is hoped that all those who are interested in existing dispensaries, and all who desire to encourage habits of thrift and self-reliance among the poor will endeavour to further the objects of the council. Further information may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Charles H. Warren, at the temporary offices, 5, Lamb's Conduit Street, W.C.

The calendar of the Royal College of Surgeons of England has been published by the Council. The income from all sources amounted to £24,326 17s. 8d., the largest item being derived from fees paid by candidates for diplomas—viz., £15,219 4s. 6d. The expenses for the year amounted to £22,648 12s. 11d.

The Dewsbury and District General Infirmary Bazaar was a huge success, the total receipts amounting to no less than £5,584 15s. 2d. The organisers are greatly to be congratulated.

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