

## Reflections.

### FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The King has been pleased to appoint George Andreas Berry, Esq., M.B., C.M. Edin., F.R.C.S. Edin., to be Honorary Surgeon-Oculist to His Majesty in Scotland, in the room of Douglas Argyll Robertson, Esq., M.D., deceased.

The Princess of Wales has shown her interest in the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen Square, W.C., by consenting to receive purses in aid of the Jubilee Fund sometime during the autumn. The amount aimed at is £50,000, of which £10,000 is to be devoted to the extension of the premises.

The Princess of Wales has consented to open on February 22nd the new ward for children at the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway, and will receive purses containing subscriptions towards the cost of same.

The Registrar-General's report on births, deaths, and marriages in 1907 is issued. It records the fact that the birth-rate in England and Wales in that year was the lowest on record—26.3 per 1,000 of the population. Should the decrease continue, it will lead to greater responsibility for human life. In the past it has been squandered like water.

At an inquest held at Islington on the body of a three-months-old child, which was found dead in bed last Sunday morning, Dr. Danford Thomas said there was always a doubt in these cases as to whether death was due to natural causes or not. He had been urging for a long time the necessity for parents to provide cots for their infants, but mothers seemed to think they knew better than coroners. Last year he had 87 cases of the kind. Medical evidence showed that death in this case was due to deprivation of fresh air, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

In his first annual report to the Workington Education Committee, Dr. Eadie, the Medical Officer, states that tea-drinking is one of the principal agents in producing anaemic and half-starved-looking children. Of the 226 children under thirteen years whom he examined, Dr. Eadie found 76.9 per cent. to have decayed teeth.

The Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the relations of human and animal tuberculosis have issued a third interim report giving an account of certain experiments regarding the infectivity of the milk and faeces of naturally infected tuberculous cows. The result of the experiments has been to confirm the opinion expressed in the second interim report, that the milk of tuberculous cows must be considered dangerous for human beings.

The Government has published statistics showing that, whereas 605,270 deaths from plague in the Punjab took place in 1907, only 29,832 deaths occurred in 1908.

### EXHIBITION OF "PERI-LUSTA" PRIZE WORK.

The third Great Needlework Competition, which was open free to all users of this well-known make of mercerised thread, has just closed, and the judging having been completed an exhibition of the work is to be held at Messrs. James Spence and Co., Ltd., General Drapers, of St. Paul's Churchyard, London, E.C., from February 6th to 20th.

A most attractive case of "Peri-Lusta" threads and finished specimens of needlework was on show at the Franco-British Exhibition, and the Grand Prix (highest possible honour) was awarded to the proprietors for excellence of manufacture and for the silken finish and brilliant lustre of the thread. Entry forms were freely distributed from the stand, and the extra publicity given to the competition in this way no doubt accounts for the great quantity of work sent in.

Ladies who are at all interested in needlework should not fail to pay a visit to Messrs. James Spence's to see the work, whether they have competed or not, as many charming new ideas, and many beautiful specimens in all branches of needlework are to be seen in the windows and show-rooms.

The fourth competition is now open, and official entry forms can be had free upon request from "Peri-Lusta," 19, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

The prize money will exceed £115, divided, as before, into over 100 cash prizes, and every competitor will receive a list of the names and addresses of the prize winners.

### LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT.

The Liebig Co. have just acquired 1,300,000 acres of cattle farms in South Africa, which are now being developed to supply beef for Oxo, the famous national beverage. This huge territory is entirely in addition to the present Oxo farms in the Argentine, which also cover over 1,300,000 acres. The total size, therefore, of the Oxo cattle farms is now 2,600,000 acres, equivalent to 4,000 square miles. This gigantic territory is larger in area than the combined counties of Middlesex, Kent, Sussex, and Surrey. Our readers doubtless know that Oxo is made solely by the great Liebig Company, the originators of concentrated beef foods. In the farms of the company the cattle are subjected to tests so rigorous that it is practically an impossibility for a tainted or tuberculous animal to be used for any of the firm's preparations, the chief of which are Lemco, entirely free from flavouring; and a highly concentrated Beef Extract; Oxo, consisting of pure Beef Extract, combined with the Albumen and Fibrin of lean beef, deliciously seasoned; and Nursing Oxo, a compound of Meat Peptone, Meat Extract, and Meat Fibrin.

### A READY AND EASY METHOD OF PREPARING PLASMON.

Many of our readers who already use Plasmon tea and Plasmon cocoa regularly, and realise the value of Plasmon as an article of diet, may be glad to know of a method by which it can be easily prepared. Mix one teaspoonful of Plasmon gradually into a paste with about half a wine-glassful of cold water; then stir in gradually a cupful of milk and drink. Hot milk is preferable, as the Plasmon dissolves more readily.

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