

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Surgeon-General W. L. Gubbins, C.B., M.V.O., Deputy Director-General, Army Medical Service, to be Director-General in succession of Surgeon-General Sir A. Keogh, K.C.B., Honorary Physician to His Majesty, when the latter vacates his appointment. During Sir Alfred Keogh's term of office as Director-General, which position he has held since 1904, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service has been greatly developed, the Nursing Board of that Service, of which he is Chairman, has established an examination of Sisters for the rank of Matron, and Territorial Nursing Service has also been inaugurated.

Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O., and Dr. News-holme, Medical Officer to the Local Government Board, have been appointed delegates of his Majesty's Government to the International Congress on Leprosy, to be held at Bergen from August 16th to 19th.

In connection with the bequest by the late Mr. Harry Barnato of £250,000 for the purpose of founding some charity in the nature of a hospital, or kindred institution, in commemoration of his brother, Mr. Barney Barnato, and his nephew, Mr. Woolf Joel, both of whom predeceased him, the trustees, Mr. S. B. Joel, Mr. J. B. Joel, and Mr. S. G. Asher have decided to apply it to the building and endowment of an institution for the reception of cancer patients. The new institution will be administered, except as regards its finance, in connection with the Middlesex Hospital, and the trustees have acquired a suitable site in Nassau Street, adjoining the hospital's special cancer wards. In addition to the trustees, Prince Francis of Teck, Lord Cheylesmore, Sir John Purcell, and Mr. Felix Davis will form the Committee which has been entrusted with the task of carrying out the scheme.

Miss Dillwyn, a member of the Swansea Board of Guardians, has made a gift of £1,000, yielding an income of £40 per annum, for the purpose of sending necessitous patients suffering from lupus, to special hospitals for treatment. The fund will be administered by the Swansea Ladies' Samaritan Society. At the meeting of the Swansea Guardians at which the Chairman made the announcement, Miss Dillwyn, who in her work as a Guardian has come in contact with the ravages of this terrible disease, said that the best appreciation of her gift which the Guardians could show would be to bring deserving cases to the notice of the Society.

The Annual General Meeting of the British Medical Association at Belfast delegated to the Council all powers to appoint a President-elect, and to make arrangements for the Annual General Meeting in 1910. There was only one nomination for the post of Chairman of Representative Meetings, and Mr. H. A. Ballance, of Norwich, was duly elected.

Impressions of the Congress.

The Congress has emphasised that not one pure inspiration, one great idea, one self-denying act, one tear, or one expression of joy, has been wasted, but that they have all gone to swell the ever-flowing force of evolution in the making of our International Council of Nurses, whilst the obstruction of ignorance, prejudice, and hate, smashed into fragments, is whirled along as mere wreckage.

ETHEL G. FENWICK.
*Founder, International Council
of Nurses.*

Generally speaking, there can be but one opinion of the International Congress of Nurses, and that is—it was a splendid success. But the thing which impressed one most was to see and hear and feel that the predominating thought in the minds of those representative nurses of so many countries, is to carry the nursing of the sick to the high level that will provide the woman who becomes a nurse the proper preparation, education, and legal protection, and through her assure to the public the best possible care for its sick. One cannot but feel that a great gain in this direction is to be effected through such meetings, and we all return to our several countries with a clearer understanding of what each country has accomplished and has still to work for, and with the professional feeling toward each other well established and strengthened. The majority of us came, knowing quite well of the opposition that exists in England and so were not surprised at the expression given to it, but as it is not an organised opposition many members of the Congress expressed the hope and belief that as our aims and objects become better understood and people realise that our ultimate object is the very best care of the sick, that opposition will die out, and we shall become a united force for good. A deep appreciation of the splendid support of so many good friends was constantly expressed as well as the conviction on the part of every member that the best and quickest results must come through nurses themselves assuming the responsibility of the development of their own profession.

ISABEL HAMPTON ROBB,
*Delegate, American Federation of
Nurses.*

CHERE MADAME,—J'ai le plaisir de vous donner ci-après mes impressions sur le Congrès, suivant le désir que vous m'avez exprimé, mais d'abord permettez moi de vous remercier chaleureusement pour l'accueil charmant que vous avez réservé à la déléguée de l'Assistance Publique et à ses Elèves. Le succès du Congrès fait le plus grand honneur à celles qui l'ont organisé.

L'Angleterre seule, sait donner à ses nurses la considération qu'elles méritent.

Les communications faites au Congrès m'ont vivement intéressée, quoique notre but soit un peu différent, puisque l'Ecole des Infirmières de

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