

## Reflections.

### FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Viscount Ridley is to distribute the prizes and deliver an address to the students at Charing Cross Hospital Medical College (University of London) on the occasion of the opening of the Winter Session, 1909-10, on Monday, October 4th.

Sir F. Channing's Standing Committee of the House of Commons, which has had the Metropolitan Ambulances Bill introduced by Sir William Collins under consideration, has, by 28 votes to 1, approved the provision which it incorporates, that the London County Council shall be the authority for ambulance purposes. Mr. Gladstone, Home Secretary, supported Sir William Collins' Bill in Committee, and said that he did not think there was any chance of getting the House to accept the Metropolitan Asylums' Board as the authority. The matter was one of urgency, and he hoped the Bill would pass. The Bill was passed through Committee and ordered to be reported to the House.

Dr. J. M. MacLeod, Lecturer on Skin Diseases at the London School of Tropical Medicine, delivered an interesting lecture on "The Present State of Our Knowledge of the Bacteriology and Pathological Anatomy of Leprosy" at the second International Scientific Congress on Leprosy, held at Bergen last week. He negatived the theory that the disease may arise from eating decayed fish or pork, and said that until the lepra bacillus had been found to exist in decayed fish, and to be capable of being recognised there, the fish theory of the etiology of leprosy could not be regarded as other than a hypothesis which is unsupported by scientific fact.

It is desired to raise £50,000 for the extension scheme of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, and of this amount £12,225 10s. 6d. has already been subscribed. This includes a donation of 250 guineas from his Majesty the King.

The Duke of Norfolk has subscribed £1,000 to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital Extension Fund. The £1,000 is to be devoted to a proposed ophthalmic block, which will cost £4,500.

Under the will of the late M. Osiris the Pasteur Institute has received £1,200,000. The circumstances leading to this gift are noteworthy. A triennial prize of £4,000, given by M. Osiris, was awarded to Dr. Roux, head of the Pasteur Institute, for having rendered the greatest service to the human race during the previous three years in the discovery of the anti-diphtheritic serum. Dr. Roux, though a poor man, living on a salary of £250, presented the whole sum to the Pasteur Institute, and this so impressed M. Osiris that he bequeathed the greater part of his wealth to the Institute as a token of admiration for the scientific attainments and self-abnegation of Dr. Roux.

## Impressions of the Congress.

I am very pleased to have an opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the Congress meetings, which will never be forgotten by myself and my German friends who had the privilege also of being present.

I have not before had the great honour of attending a Congress of nurses, and I expected to gain a great deal of knowledge of the subject of nursing, but I have gained far more than I ever expected to do.

I admire exceedingly the brilliant leadership of the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, and the untiring efforts of all those ladies who have helped to make the Congress such a great success, and I am sure all will agree with me that it has proved to be a great success.

Anyone who has listened with attention to the addresses and splendid papers put before us at the various Congress sessions, which brought us new and precious thoughts and interesting ideas in every branch of nurses' work, must feel a deep and lasting respect for those impartial and noble-hearted women who have worked so well in the interest of us all.

Besides the serious work of the meetings, there was always brilliant mental refreshment, combined with the delightful international spirit amongst us all, and the charming receptions of our several hostesses, which have made our visit so pleasant. I did not think it possible that these receptions could have been so delightfully free from all stiffness and formality.

To mention all the good things would take too long, but I should like to say that no discord disturbed our social gatherings, and each time we separated we had the feeling that these pleasant hours would always be remembered.

I am firmly convinced that if anything can awaken slumbering and noble sentiments it is those words we have listened to at the Congress, which came from heart and went to heart. Those without courage gained courage; the weak gained strength to go forward and work in the interest of suffering humanity.

We all have great cause to be truly thankful for the good things of the past week, especially we German nurses, who have special cause to be grateful for the great honour conferred on us by the selection of our dear President, Sister Agnes Karll, to be President of the International Council of Nurses.

I wish I knew your language better to be able to express all my feelings to you of our very grateful appreciation of the great kindness shown us by our English friends, especially Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

To all the members of the International Congress I say:—Lebewohl! Auf Wiedersehen in Cöln in drei Jahren.

SISTER ERNA NAGEL,  
Delegate, German Nurses' Association.

DEAR MADAM PRESIDENT,—As we are all gathering into work again, and looking back on our holidays,

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