

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The King has approved of the Privy Council's recommendation that the registered medical practitioners in England and Wales shall have the power of returning an additional member to the General Council of Medical Education and Registration, and that the addition in question shall not be made until the next ensuing general election of Direct Representatives.

The Metropolitan Ambulances Bill, proposing to impose on the London County Council the duty of instituting and maintaining an ambulance system for the removal of cases of accident or sudden illness occurring in the streets, has been read a third time in the House of Commons.

The Board of Management of the London Temperance Hospital Hampstead Road, N.W., has passed a resolution of profound sorrow at the death of Dr. Dawson Burns.

A small but most useful and very busy hospital is St. Peter's Hospital for Stone and other Urinary Diseases, in Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C., which deals with a class of case sincerely to be pitied, and in connection with which some of the gravest surgical operations are performed. The hospital has only 32 beds, and the average occupied last year were 29.31. The average residence of the 509 patients admitted was 21 days, and in 440 instances operations, many of them most serious, were performed. The out-patients treated were 3,921, and 39,169 attendances were registered. There was an attendance of 1,231 medical men on the practice of the hospital, showing how greatly the work is valued by those interested in the special branch of surgery to which the hospital is devoted.

The late Dr. Edmund Wearne Clarke, of Chesterfield, whose will has been proved of the gross value of £7,261 and of £6,870 net, left the ultimate residue of his property to "The Lord Rector, Chancellor, and Senators for the time being of the University of Edinburgh, upon trust to found and endow a bursary to be called the 'Wearne Clarke' Bursary, in honour of my University and for the help of some others that come after me in my profession."

Mr. F. J. Bray, Assistant House Governor at Leicester Infirmary, has been appointed General Manager of the General Infirmary, Leeds.

The presence of Asiatic cholera at Rotterdam, and the deaths of a number of persons from this disease, must cause much anxiety to our port sanitary authorities on the East Coast, which is in frequent communication with Holland. The British public, however, are so well assured of the efficiency of these officials, and of the effectiveness of the precautions which they take to ensure the public safety, that they will not be unduly alarmed.

Impressions of the Congress.

DEAR MADAM PRESIDENT,—Returning home from our holidays, and beginning the work again, first of all we would like to send our most hearty thanks for those Congress days in London.

We were both so taken with all we heard and saw, and so charmed by the kindness shown to us, that we shall never forget it.

We hope to be able to bring forward, in some way, what we learned, and perhaps, at the next Congress at Köln we will be able to tell you about our own country and our work.

Kindly convey our most sincere thanks to all the Congress ladies.

CAMILLA STRUVE,
MARIE JOYS,

Sisters at the Bergen Hospital, Norway.

This wonderful Congress cannot fail to impress all those who have had the privilege of hearing the speeches of so many eminent women during the past week, who have come from all parts of the world to put before each other and the general public what has been done, and what they hope to do, in raising the standard of the nursing profession.

I was at the Congress held in Buffalo, U.S.A., in 1901. Then the good speeches were comparatively few, but at the present Congress it has been a revelation to hear so many women deliver their deeply thought out and well organised schemes in so impressive and able a manner.

One is impressed first by the depth and breadth of the subjects, treating not only of the improvement of the nursing profession, but the welfare of humanity in general through the nurse.

2. By a largeness and broad-mindedness not usually attributed to women in all their discussions.

3. That most countries which have not already got it are working for the same object, namely, the registration and acknowledgment by the State of the trained nurse.

4. That all nurses and matrons of hospitals who wish to keep pace with the times must join or affiliate with the International Council of Nurses.

5. That the education of the nurse in every way is of the utmost importance, and, seeing so many clever women from abroad able to tell us what they are doing in our own language, makes us feel very ignorant when we think how few of us could do the same in their countries. When one hears women like the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Isla Stewart, and the two very inspiring and able speakers, Lady Helen Munro Ferguson and the Hon. Albinia Brodrick, the clever Americans, the brave Germans, who have done so much in spite of so much opposition, the Danes, Swedes, Belgians, and others, one realises that women like these are proving day by day their fitness to take part in the government of their country.

6. That we shall all remember the Congress week as one of the pleasantest of our lives.

ISLA BLOMFIELD,
*Fraternal Delegate from the Australasian
Trained Nurses' Association.*

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