

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Princess Henry of Battenberg has consented to become the president of the Isle of Wight Rural Midwifery and Nursing Association.

At the annual meeting of the Tiverton Infirmary, Mr. A. Fisher, hon. sec., remarked that the deficit of £51 on 1908 was discharged by a donor, who wished to remain anonymous. The ladies' auxiliary was a new feature, on which they based their future hopes. As to the operating theatre, he had been assured by surgeons from London and other large centres that they had never seen a better operating theatre in the provinces.

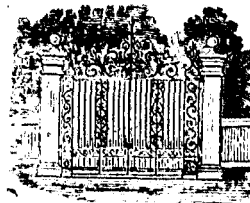
The annual meeting of the Glasgow Women's Private Hospital was held recently at the hospital. The report submitted was of an interesting character, showing that the institution is in a sound condition. With funds on hand to the extent of more than £1,500, the hospital is well equipped to set out on another year's work. Forty-eight patients have been treated throughout the year, with the most satisfactory results.

Mr. Alexander Ledingham, S.S.C., in submitting the Royal Asylum of Aberdeen report last week, made some interesting remarks. He said the number of patients during the last four years had been almost stationary. This was in accordance with the general experience of the Scottish asylums. The boom was off for insanity as well as for many other things. What the reason of this might be he could not tell. Partly, perhaps, the absence of excitement and speculation, partly greater moderation in the use of alcohol. It would be very interesting to watch, if trade revived, whether increased prosperity and luxury were accompanied by a corresponding increase of insanity. From the medical report it appeared that out of every hundred patients admitted to the Aberdeen Asylum the number of recoveries had been 38, a result somewhat better than in the previous year.

We think that people who are cruel to the dear animals are beyond the pale, and that they deserve very special punishment. The traffic in old horses from this country to abroad is a national disgrace, which the kind-hearted must arouse themselves to wipe out. We are pleased to announce that meetings are being organised by Our Dumb Friends' League to protest against Continental traffic in aged and worn-out horses. Poor dears! For the best years of their lives they have worked for our comfort and enrichment, and no better fate awaits them than an old age of slavery or death in a foreign land! *Cui bono?* some fiend is a few shillings the richer! Surely there is a happy hunting ground in some unknown sphere for all these noble beasts, and we hope it is the sphere to which our spirit will take wings.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



At a well-attended meeting of women, organised by the North Kensington Municipal Reform Candidates' Election Committee, held at Horbury Hall, Ladbroke Road, last week, Mary Lady Ilchester,

who presided, said that the forthcoming London County Council Election was as important to women as the General Election had been to men, for the L.C.C. regulated social economics. In the area covered by the Council there was a vast field in which women could work.

Six women are seeking election to the L.C.C.—Miss Adler, and Mrs. Miall Smith, who did good work on the London School Board, and who is President of the North St. Pancras Women's Liberal Association, as Progressives; Dr. Ethel Bentham (North Kensington) and Miss Margaret Bondfield (Woolwich) as Labour candidates; and Miss Susan Lawrence (West Marylebone) and Miss Douglas Pennant as Moderates. They are all well known for their public work, and we hope their candidature will receive widespread support.

The Conference of the Labour Party at Newport, Mon., last week, under the presidency of Mr. Keir Hardie, adopted a resolution moved by Miss Bondfield demanding that the inclusion of women in the Reform Bill promised by the Government should not be left to the chances of an amendment, and declaring that any attempt to exclude women would be met by the uncompromising opposition of organised labour. Miss Bondfield's appeal to the men of the Conference to refuse to enter into their kingdom of free citizenship while women were left outside, evidently appealed to their sense of justice.

At the annual meeting of the Trustees of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, a resolution submitted by the Board of Management, stating that it is not desirable to appoint women to resident medical and surgical appointments at the Infirmary was carried. We understand that medical women are only asking that appointments in the women's wards should be thrown open to them, and logically they should claim equality of opportunity with male practitioners, but even their modest demand is thus denied.

At the suggestion of the Japanese Department of the Interior a most interesting exhibit at the Japan-British Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush this year will be a collection of relics of the Russo-Japanese war belonging to Mrs. Tamekichi Sawano, which contains a number of articles captured by Japanese soldiers on the battlefield, and presented to her in recognition of her work for the troops, as well as the sick and wounded soldiers and their families. After the war Mrs. Sawano received from the Government a medal and the Japanese Order of Distinguished Service.

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