

## Reflections.

### FROM A BOARD ROOM-MIRROR.

His Majesty the King has accepted a copy of the Inaugural Address, delivered by Dr. George Burford on "The Medicine of the Future: Coming Events that Cast their Shadows Before," at the opening of the winter session of the Honyman Gillespie Lecture Courses at the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.

The annual meeting of Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Marylebone Road, London, was held on Tuesday, 22nd February, Sir Samuel Scott, Bart., M.P., presiding. The report stated that 1,793 patients had been admitted to the wards during the past year, and 2,333 patients had been attended and nursed in their own homes. Twenty-two medical students (11 men and 11 women) and 37 qualified practitioners (24 men and 13 women) had attended the practice of the hospital; 130 women had been trained in midwifery and monthly nursing, and 43 in monthly nursing alone. The fees for trained nurses had been reduced, and they were now permitted to wear the uniform dresses which they had worn at their General Hospital. A private nursing staff had been established, and had been very successful. In moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman deplored the fact that the income during the past year had fallen short of the expenditure by no less than £1,570. Moreover, there had been deficiencies in 1907 and 1908 also, the total deficiency in the three years, 1907-8-9, amounting to £3,287. He made an earnest appeal for additional support to enable the Committee to pay off this large deficit and to provide for the upkeep of the hospital during the current year.

The annual financial statement of the Metropolitan Asylums Board shows a decrease of total expenditure for the year of over £40,000. Sir Augustus Scovell, in presenting the Finance Committee's report, said that it was extremely pleasant to him to announce a reduction of  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. in the rates.

We wondered how long the predatory inroads into the money available for charity in the Southern Counties by the League of Mercy, all of which is donated to the King's Hospital Fund for London, would be tolerated by hospital managers. Expressions of disapproval have already been heard, and now, at the annual Court of Governors of the Sussex County Hospital, Mr. Scrase Dickins, in seconding the adoption of the report, said he desired to lay some emphasis on a matter which was felt to be prejudicial to the interests of the hospital, and that was the way in which the organisation on behalf of the League of Mercy was being extended in the town, as well as in the county all around. While they had at their doors institutions unquestionably of high repute, receiving and dealing with the patients poured into them in such thronging numbers, it did seem hard that large sums of money should be collected for the support of hospitals elsewhere from those who were enjoying the advantages of having local charities. In

London there might be patients drawn from the provinces immediately surrounding, but he doubted if there were more than a very few sent from Sussex, least of all from this part of it, while they knew for certain that there was not a hospital in Brighton which not only needed, but would be the better for, increased pecuniary resources. He was not forgetting that a moderate percentage of the money collected by the League of Mercy was allocated locally—but why a percentage only? Surely they had the first claim for support; surely such a competition as this was unfair!

Dr. Willoughby Furner thought that a great many people who were asked to subscribe had no idea that only 5 per cent. of the money went to local charities. Sussex subscribed to the League more than almost any county, and it seemed hard that they should get only such a small percentage. If charitably minded people understood that the Sussex County Hospital not only carried on work all over the county, but in many instances did a great deal for London patients who came down, he thought they might think that their subscriptions would be better given direct to the hospital.

We think it is high time the Committees of county hospitals laid their just cause of complaint plainly before the President, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. We know that the Hampshire hospitals also bitterly resent the diversion of money from local charities to the Metropolis. Nothing could be more unfair, and the abuse is yearly increasing.

The question of providing a suitable place of worship for the patients at the Frimley Sanatorium at Frimley has for some time past engaged the serious consideration of the Committee of Management. Lord Cheylesmore states that last summer a memorial was presented to the Committee by the patients at the Sanatorium expressing their unanimous and earnest desire to be allowed to build and equip a chapel by their own labour as part of their treatment of physical work, and the Committee, feeling that the question ought not to be further delayed, have caused plans to be prepared for the erection of a chapel by the architect who built the Sanatorium. The building has been designed with a view to simplicity, and yet in keeping with the rest of the Sanatorium. Provision has been made for an abundant supply of fresh air, and it will be possible for the patients to undertake the greater part of the work of building it.

A sum of £2,500 is required to erect and equip the chapel.

### WINCARNIS AND INFLUENZA.

One of the medicated wines which is of proved value as a tonic in many cases of debility, or when it is desired to fortify the system in the presence of a prevailing epidemic, is Wincarnis, supplied by Thomas Coleman and Co., 221, Wincarnis Works, Norwich. At the present time it is being prescribed both as a preventive of, and a valuable aid to, recovery in cases of influenza, and as a tonic during convalescence, with great advantage to the patient.

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