

tions given by their sergeant smartly and well. Each section has a distinctive name, and colours, and the *esprit de corps* inculcated is most valuable training. One pathetic section was composed entirely of cripples.

The boys are fortunate in finding in Dr. Pugh, the Medical Superintendent, and Dr. Reade and Dr. Griffin, Resident Medical Officers, friends who take a real interest in their general welfare.

I must not forget to mention the great kitchen, where the potatoes are pared by electricity; the steam laundry, where an incredible amount of washing is accomplished weekly; the stores from which are issued all the supplies and clothing down to shoes and handkerchiefs for this great family, also tooth-brushes, for every child has a peg for his or her towel, brush and comb, and tooth-brush; the carefully kept mortuary; and the motor garage; and even so I feel a certain sympathy with the Queen of Sheba, so would you, O reader! by the time you had walked round that mighty place. You would find there was no more strength left in you, and that neither had you realised one half that there is to see, and that you were not able to tell one half when you tried to relate its wonders. But this at least Londoners can be assured, that it would be impossible for the children for whom it is responsible to be better cared for in better surroundings. The bread bill of the Infirmary must, one would imagine, be enormous, for an hour or two spent in that bracing air puts a keen edge on to one's appetite.

M. B.

NONFLAM.

Flannelette is a favourite material with the poorer classes, owing to its warmth, cosiness, and cheapness; its grave drawback is its inflammability, and many deaths have occurred, both of children and adults, through flannelette clothing igniting. The Departmental Committee on Coroners' Law took evidence at considerable length on the question of flannelette, which is printed in a Bluebook recently published, and the lesson of this is the imperative necessity of using a material which does not readily ignite. Such a material is "Nonflam," supplied by the patentees, Aytoun Street, Manchester, which gained the only awards given at the Franco-British Exhibition for a permanently fire resisting flannelette. The advantage of this is so obvious that everyone who buys flannelette should insist on having the variety known as "Nonflam." When this material is procurable it should be illegal for any one to subject little children to the danger of a terrible death by fire, through using an inflammable flannelette.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The bazaar in aid of the Hospital for Women, Soho Square, will take place, as originally arranged, on May 24th and 25th, in the new hospital buildings. For the concert on the second day the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Hon. Mrs. Stuart Anderson, Mme. Louise Dale, Mrs. George Swinton, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Maurice Farkoa, and Miss Lena Ashwell have promised their services. The bazaar is being promoted with the object of raising £4,500 to complete the rebuilding fund and to put one hospital in a position to claim a conditional gift of £3,000 from King Edward's Hospital Fund. There is a long list of titled stall-holders, and we may hope that money which otherwise would have been required to take an active part in the festivities of the London season may be spent in charity, and find its way into the coffers of this most useful hospital.

Dr. Sambon has telegraphed from Rome to Mr. James Cautlie that the Pellagra Field Commission has definitely proved that maize is not the cause of Pellagra. The parasitic conveyer is the *Simulium reptans*.

The late Mr. Thomas Home, of High Street, Solihull, Warwickshire, whose estate is valued at £38,866, has left his nurse, Miss Emma Elizabeth Moulton, an annuity of £300. The bulk of his fortune is left equally between the Lifeboat Institution, the Birmingham Eye Hospital, and the General Institution for the Blind, Edgbaston.

Mr. Charles Smith, of 64, Carlton Hill, N.W., whose estate is valued at £132,470, left £25,000 for charities, suggesting that £1,000 should go to each of the following London hospitals:—St. Mary's, St. George's, St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas's, Guy's, University College, Charing Cross, Middlesex, King's College, Royal Free, Cancer (Fulham Road), Brompton, and Samaritan Free.

Sir James and Lady Roberts, of Milner Field, have made a most generous gift to the Yorkshire Home for Incurable Children, presenting the premises recently used as the Clifton College, Harrogate. The new Home for Incurables will be much larger than the building now occupied, and will accommodate at least all the forty-five cots which are subscribed for at present. Clifton College is in a delightful situation on the south side of the town. Sir James and Lady Roberts have purchased the building, and are having such alterations made as are necessary to adapt it to its new uses. It is a substantial structure, and quite up to date in all its appointments, having fireproof staircases and being fitted with electric light. The gift has been resolved upon as a memorial of the youngest son of Sir James and Lady Roberts, Master Jack Roberts, who was drowned some years ago under tragic circumstances at Portrush while staying there with his parents on a holiday.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)