

alive to the value of food in sickness, and has recommended to the Guardians the adoption of a new dietary scale for the patients. He has announced that he believes in cure by good food rather than by drugs—good or bad—and it is with the view of this principal being carried into practice at Hope Hospital that he has drawn up the new scale. A calculation of the union officials put the cost of new dietaries at £1,200 per annum above the cost of the patients' meals on the present scale. The Infirmary Committee are naturally "staggered" at the prospective increase in cost.

Dr. A. Renshaw, at a meeting of the Roman Catholic Congress held at Leeds, expressed the extraordinary opinion that a strange woman was an intruder in a man's sick room, and had no right to attend upon him. The cult of Priapus was the cause of the present unhappy state of unrest, and if it were not for this heathenish revival things would be different. A sick man ought to be nursed by a man, and the ministrations of medical women should be restricted to their own sex. He knew that women preferred to be attended by men, and said that they had more sympathy and kindness from them than from their own sex. He had, he asserted, seen things that made him wonder why women were so hard with women. He further said that he felt convinced that the real motive at the bottom of making post-mortem examinations, in which the naked body was handled and examined, and the sick nursing of men by strange women, was heathen in origin. We wonder how this gentleman (whose Church teaches him to reverence the human body as the temple of the Holy Ghost) reconciles his opinions with the fact that some of the noblest and most feminine of women are to be found in the ranks of the medical and nursing professions.

In the Town Hospital of Munich, just before midnight, a revolt recently broke out in the ward in which the young prostitutes are, on account of disease, forcibly detained. At a given signal, some of the patients suddenly began to give way to extreme excesses. Glasses, washing basins, windows, and chairs were smashed and the water turned on so that the ward was partly flooded. So great was the disorder that the police had to be called in. Eight of the ringleaders, girls of 16 and 17 years of age, were arrested and taken to the police station." Comment is needless. At what age did these girls, hardly more than children, become prostitutes, to have reached this stage at 16 and 17?

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The King has become Patron of the British Red Cross Society, and the King and Queen have become patrons of the Brompton Hospital for Consumption.

St. Peter's Hospital for Stone and other Urinary Diseases, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C., has now completed the fiftieth year of its existence, and, in commemoration of its jubilee, the Committee are endeavouring to raise the sum of £5,000 to complete the equipment of the building, towards which £2,800 have already been promised. Considering the great amount of good work done in relieving and curing a most distressing and painful class of diseases, and the excellent results obtained in surgical operations, including the most serious which can be performed—*i.e.*, prostatectomy—the amount appealed for seems a very modest one, and we hope it will speedily be raised.

The late Mr. John Summers, of Stalybridge, Cheshire, a well-known iron master, has bequeathed £500 to the Stalybridge Sick Nursing Society, and left £1,000 to his wife and son upon trust to use the income and the capital for the purpose of providing luxuries, Christmas treats, summer picnics, fruit, flowers, etc., for the patients and staff of the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne. He also left £2,000 to his wife and son to use the income and capital for sending sick and needy persons in Stalybridge and Dukinfield to and from convalescent homes, and to provide children in the same boroughs with country holidays and clothing.

At the annual meeting of the Sister Dora Convalescent Hospital, at Milford, a very satisfactory report was received. The Chairman, Captain W. S. B. Levett, in moving its adoption, said it was gratifying to find they could again present a satisfactory report of the home. It was 27 years since the hospital was started, and under the able administration of Miss Ellis they found it at the end of that period working up to the fullest extent of its capacity for usefulness as a county institution. Almost all the inmates had been bread-winners; therefore the benefits of this charitable institution had been far more widely reaching than mere figures could show. It was becoming more and more evident that in the near future it would be impossible to maintain hospitals by voluntary contributions, not only because of financial difficulties, but because of the increased amount of work laid on private institutions by the State. It is pleasant to note that the year's work ends with a small balance in hand. Mr. Adams, who seconded the report, spoke of the valuable services rendered by Miss Ellis, remarking that, in fact, she managed this institution.

An anonymous donor has sent to the hon. treasurer of Leith Hospital £1,500 to endow a bed in memory of King Edward, a form of memorial which is very suitable.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)