

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Her Majesty the Queen has graciously contributed £100 to His Serene Highness, Prince Francis of Teck's Appeal Fund for the Middlesex Hospital. In sending the donation the Hon. A. Nelson Hood, Treasurer to her Majesty, writes: "I am further directed to add the expression of Her Majesty's best wishes for the success of your endeavour on behalf of an institution which has done very much to alleviate the sufferings of so many in urgent need of assistance."

The medical profession comes in for distinction on the celebration of His Majesty's Birthday. The Right Hon. Sir Walter B. Foster becomes a Peer, Dr. Champneys, Chairman of the Central Midwives' Board, gets a Baronety; Dr. Downes, of the Local Government Board, Mr. John Fagan, of the Belfast Royal Hospital, Dr. George Hastings, Mr. John Lentaigne, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, Dr. David C. McVail, Crown Member for Scotland of the General Medical Council, and Dr. R. M. Simon, Birmingham General Hospital, receive Knighthoods.

At a mass meeting of London Jews last Sunday, at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, it was unanimously agreed to proceed with a scheme for the establishment of a hospital for Jews in the East End as a memorial to King Edward. The powers that be at the London Hospital are strongly opposed to the scheme.

Miss Elizabeth Chambers, of Hastings, has bequeathed £10,000 to King Edward's Hospital Fund, £5,000 to Guy's Hospital, and £8,500 to other charitable institutions.

The Solicitor-General has resigned his seat on the Divorce Commission, and Sir F. Treves has been appointed to serve on it. To constitute such a Commission without a medical practitioner upon it has always appeared to us an extraordinary omission. The health question in divorce is of paramount importance.

An admirable, and profusely illustrated Guide to the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital, giving a detailed description of the hospital up to date is issued, as a reprint, with additions, from the *East Anglian Daily Times*. The newly appointed President of the Hospital, Dr. J. H. Bartlet, and Mrs. Bartlet, recently invited the subscribers, some 1,400 in number, many being working men, to inspect the new buildings, including an administration block, an operating theatre, with annexes, a detached isolation block, and a laundry and mortuary. The new President was cordially welcomed by a representative assembly, presided over by Mr. Herbert Mason, Chairman of the Board of Management. In the course of his address, the Chairman mentioned how willingly the Matron (Miss Deane) had adapted herself to the great inconveniences, produced by the alterations, and expressed hearty thanks to her. Much credit is also due to the Secretary, Mr. Arthur Griffiths.

Practical Points.

The Management of Infectious Diseases.

The distribution of leaflets in connection with public health matters has long been a striking feature in the United States, but it is only of recent years that medical officers of health have employed similar methods of educating the people in this country. An excellent sample of such leaflets is one issued by the West Lancashire Rural District Council, which suggests the precautions to be adopted by householders in cases of infectious illness. The rules laid down are as follows:—

1. The patient should be separated as completely as possible from the other inmates of the house; or, better still, removed to the isolation hospital. First cases should always be removed to hospital.
2. Remember that the danger of infection is the same in all cases, whether mild or severe.
3. The sick-room should be made as bare as possible by the removal of all bed-curtains, carpets, and unnecessary articles of furniture.
4. The sick-room should be well ventilated; the windows should be kept partly open when the weather permits, and a fire burning.
5. The door should be kept closed, and a sheet hung over it and kept wet with the disinfectant solution. Disinfectants may be had, free of charge, from the sanitary inspector.
6. The nurse should wear washing clothes, and always wash and disinfect her hands and face, and change her shoes and outer clothes after leaving the sick-room.
7. No food or drink which has been in the same room as the patient should be used by anyone else. It should be burned.
8. Plates, cups, spoons, clothes, and anything else brought from the sick-room should be placed in disinfectant solution for at least half an hour, and afterwards washed in water by themselves.
9. The patient's discharges should be received into a vessel containing a disinfectant. In cases of typhoid fever the disinfectant should be Izal, supplied gratuitously on application to the sanitary inspector, and should be used according to the directions printed on the label of each bottle.
10. Pieces of rag should be used instead of handkerchiefs, and burned immediately after use.
11. When scales or crusts form upon the skin it should be kept well smeared with carbolic oil or grease.
12. No visitors should be allowed.
13. The patient should not be allowed to sleep in the same room as any healthy person until at least a fortnight after apparently complete recovery.
14. The Medical Officer of Health should be informed when the illness is at an end, when a van will be sent to remove the bedding and clothes for disinfection, and will afterwards bring them back.
15. Disinfection of a sick room or other room of a house must be done to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health. The disinfection will be carried out by the Council's officials, free of charge, if so desired by the occupier.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)