

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Their Majesties the King and Queen have become patrons of the Hunstanton Convalescent Home and of the Prince Edward Home for Convalescent Children.

Her Majesty the Queen has become a patron of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Ventnor.

The Queen has kindly sent presents of grapes to several homes for incurables and invalid gentlewomen—amongst which the Home at Catherine House, Church Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, has been so favoured.

Prince Francis of Teck, Chairman of the Middlesex Hospital, has had a wonderful success in his appeal for £20,000. Already over £19,000 has been subscribed by both rich and poor, and the sum required will no doubt be soon complete.

Princess Henry of Battenberg, with Mrs. Hay Newton in attendance last week, attended the annual meeting of Governors of the Frank James Memorial Cottage Hospital, of which Her Royal Highness is president. The meeting was held at the East Cowes Town Hall.

The Hon. Secretary of the Southport Infirmary, Mr. A. H. Reynolds, has acknowledged the receipt of £5,000, the gift of Miss Swindells, of Birkdale, for the building and endowment of the "Swindells" Ward of the Infirmary. The ward is now in the course of erection.

THE HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, SOHO SQUARE, W.

The Hospital for Women, Soho Square, London, W., which has been entirely rebuilt to meet modern requirements, will not be ready for patients until the end of the present month, but structurally it is practically finished, and it is evident that the wards will be bright, sunny, and pleasant when furnished. The three large wards, which are in the front of the building, overlook the square, while others are carried back from the main block and face Frith Street. Most of them are provided with balconies, so that patients who are well enough will be able to enjoy the fresh air.

On entering the building one finds oneself in a spacious entrance-hall, with main staircase of teak giving access to all parts of the building. The wards have floors of polished teak, and the walls, which are painted with paripan, are cream in colour, with a dado of green tiles. The mantel-pieces are of white tiles, flush with the walls, the grates being brass.

The bath rooms look very fresh and clean, with white tiles below and white paripan above, and all floors are laid with terrazzo. The kitchen walls are also lined with white tiles, and the passage can be warmed with radiators.

The operating theatre, which like the rest of the building is still unfurnished, is light and spacious. It not only has a top light, but the east side is almost entirely formed of glass, so that whatever light there is will be concentrated there. There are, of course, the usual annexes, and much thought has evidently been given to this department where so much useful work is carried on.

The Isabel Hampton Robb Memorial.

In the current *American Journal of Nursing* an open letter "To the Nurses of America" appears, headed "The Isabel Hampton Robb Educational Fund," in which the debt, and the individual responsibility which must be assumed by every American nurse, is pointed out, if the memorial is to be a worthy contribution to the cause of the higher education of nurses and an impressive testimonial to one of the great teachers in our profession. "Throughout the length and breadth of our land," it runs, "there ought to come the practical evidences that you appreciate your own obligation in this endeavour and that out of your sincere appreciation you purpose that this memorial shall be, not the attempt of a few, but the grateful expression of every nurse and every training school, that one and all are debtors to Isabel Hampton Robb beyond what they can ever repay.

"How shall we show the worship we should do her?" Surely, by carrying out the purposes so dear to her heart, in making the nurses' training one of increasing educational privilege and highest dignity. No better means toward this end could have been devised than the establishment of the Isabel Hampton Robb Educational Fund, to which all of you are asked to give, as your heart prompts you. You and your school may profit directly from it, if you choose. Assuredly, the nursing profession will profit immeasurably, as there are added to its ranks earnest, enthusiastic women who have had the advantages of these Robb Scholarships, to make them better teachers and leaders amongst us." . . . "It is urged that every nursing body, alumnae and state association, nursing clubs and schools, etc., make a systematic effort to interest their members, that everyone shall feel the desire to have some part in this splendid undertaking."

Preliminary Training.

The lamented death of Mrs. Robb has deprived the International Education Committee of its first chairman—an irreparable loss. Miss Van Lanschot-Hubrecht, secretary to the Committee, is sending out to each President of a National Council of Nurses questions relating to preliminary training. The replies will be brought before the next meeting of the International Council at Cologne.

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