

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Earl Cadogan, who for many years has given his sympathy and active support to the Chelsea Hospital for Women, Fulham Road, S.W., has befriended it in the most practical and welcome manner by presenting it with a splendid site of over an acre and a quarter within a short distance of the present building. Its work is at present carried on under great disadvantages and inconveniences, which even cause the curtailment of its usefulness owing to the unceasing noise of the traffic, and the impossibility of providing for the satisfactory accommodation of the out-patients and the housing of the nurses owing to the utter inadequacy of the present site.

It is reported that a London gentleman has provided the sum of £20,000 to be devoted to the distribution in England, Germany, France, and Italy of a presentation edition of Mr. Norman Angell's book in favour of peace, "The Great Illusion."

This book has already created a great impression among statesmen and is having increasing influence in favour of international peace in every country.

It is the most stirring evangel since Baroness von Suttner wrote "Lay Down your Arms."

Mr. Reginald R. Garratt has been appointed Secretary to the Royal Free Hospital, W.C., in succession to Mr. Conrad Thier. Mr. Garratt was Secretary to the Infants' Hospital during its early days, and to the Women's Jubilee Memorial to Queen Victoria.

The Duke of Devonshire has headed the list of donations for a Florence Nightingale statue in the Ground of the Royal Infirmary, Derby, with £100.

Sir Edward Wood, whose generosity to the Leicester Infirmary, of which he is Chairman, is well known, is also President of the Leicester and County Saturday Hospital Society, which by means of a penny a week contribution from artisans, both men and women, gives a substantial sum annually to the funds of the Infirmary, and maintains a convalescent home for men. The Society has also been putting by a surplus for a similar home for women which had reached £8,000, when it had a bequest from the late Mr. Edward Higgs of £10,000. The new Home is to be built at Woodhouse Eaves, and stands in beautifully wooded country overlooking the Swithland Valley, and the commemoration stone will be laid on Saturday, June 24th.

Miss Burrell, of Botley, Hants, has undertaken to defray the cost of building a new out-patients' department for the Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital. The cost will exceed £10,000.

A memorial to the late Lady Adela Cochrane has been placed in the men's ward of the Isle of Wight Workhouse Infirmary, where her services as guardian of the poor were much appreciated.

Professional Review.

HYGIENE FOR NURSES.

A very useful book, just published by Smith, Elder, and Co., 15, Waterloo Place, London, is "Hygiene for Nurses" (Theoretical and Practical), by Dr. Herbert W. G. Macleod, M.R.C.P., D.P.H., which meets a want not quite filled by any other book on this subject. Its price is 3s. 6d. net.

The aim of the author is to explain, simply and concisely, the most important facts in Hygiene which are essential to a nurse in her daily work, and also to give information which will be useful to those who desire to obtain a certificate in Hygiene, which it is an advantage to every qualified nurse to possess.

The author states in his preface that he has included some very recent Regulations and By-laws of the Local Government Board and the London County Council, which were inserted as the pages were being finally revised, and he has directed attention to the Sanitary Laws of England, Scotland, and Ireland useful to nurses in all parts of the British Isles, and given in the Appendix a summary of those Acts of Parliament of special importance to them.

Hygiene is defined by the author as "the Science of the Preservation of Health and of the Prevention of Disease."

It teaches us how, under suitable conditions, life may be prolonged to its farthest limit.

It is also known as "Preventive Medicine" (because it is a branch of medicine concerned in the prevention of disease), and "Public Health" (because of its care of the health and well being of the general public). The name of "State Medicine" is also applied to it as every civilised Government is bound to frame law and regulations, which are directed to benefit the health of the nation.

Natural and artificial methods of ventilation, heating, and lighting, the general sources and supply of water, and its purification, drainage, and the disposal of sewage are all questions of which nurses should have some knowledge, and it is here presented to them in an assimilable form.

Useful chapters are those on Infection (described as causing disease "by a poison entering the body which may be affected locally or constitutionally") and Disinfection.

A practical warning as to means by which infection may be conveyed is that "people in the name of charity send their worn-out, and it may be infectious, clothing to 'jumble sales' or otherwise to be disposed of. Pawnbrokers' shops, auction sales, and places where second-hand articles are sold are centres of contagion all over the country. Bedding, furniture, pillows, and cushions frequently carry the germs of disease. The material (known to the trade as 'flock') used for stuffing mattresses, 'feather beds,' and pillows, has been proved to be of the filthiest kind."

A needful warning is that against milk to which preservatives such as boracic acid and salicylic acid have been added. They are liable to cause indigestion, irritation of the bowels, and severe illness in young children, and other instances of food adulteration are also given.

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