

## REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Princess Louise (Duchess of Argyll), who, on the 16th ult., formally opened the new out-patient extension of the Paddington Green Children's Hospital, in which she displayed great interest, has now consented to be patron of the institution. Of the £11,000 which the extension cost, £2,250 has been contributed by King Edward's Hospital Fund, and about £2,000 remains to be collected.

The Barnato Joel memorial, at the Middlesex Hospital, is now nearly completed, and the wards will be open for the reception of patients at the commencement of the New Year. The capacity of the Cancer Charity will be ninety beds. Greenhow Ward, from which male cancer patients have been transferred, is to be altered and equipped for female medical patients; and, with the consent of Queen Alexandra, it will in future be known as "Queen Alexandra's Ward."

The Earl of Derby, Lord Mayor of Liverpool, has given £200 to start a special fund for the David Lewis Northern Hospital, to enable that institution to bear the burden imposed upon it by the disaster at Bibby's Oil Mills, the hospital having been suddenly called upon to deal with no fewer than 122 cases, some of which must remain for a long time. The prompt and admirable manner in which the rush of work was coped with by the medical and nursing staffs of this hospital, upon this sad occasion, has inspired the committee to pass the following resolution: "That this Committee desires to express its high appreciation of, and its most cordial thanks to, the matron and nurses and other officers and servants of the hospital, who by their skill, energy, and devotion, made it possible to deal rapidly and efficiently with the sufferers by the terrible calamity at Messrs. Bibby's Mills."

The arrangements for the Annual Meeting of the Penal Reform League, taking place at Caxton Hall, S.W., at eight p.m., on Friday, December 8th, are unusually interesting. Sir John Macdonell will be in the chair, and following his address Dr. Jane Walker will tell her experiences of the work on the girls' side of the Borstal Association. Other speakers will include Mr. F. Lutlow and Mrs. Bramwell Booth, who will bring forward the needs of Prison Warders, and Mr. George Montague will address the meeting on his plans for a Boy Community in this country on the lines of the George Junior Republic, New York. There will be tea and coffee at 9.30 p.m. Captain Arthur St. John, the hon. secretary, 1, Harrington Square, London, N.W., is always pleased to supply all information concerning the League's work, which is of national importance.

The disinfection of school-rooms recommended by the Scottish Education Department in 1907 has

yielded excellent results, both in the shape of improved averages of attendances and in the better health of the children. In this connection the following letter from the School House, Ballater, N.B., is interesting:—"We have used Izal Disinfectant in school very successfully for nearly two years now. The walls, &c., are regularly sprayed with a dilute solution, and the health of the school as evidenced by the attendance has improved very greatly." Better attendances mean bigger grants so the result of using Izal in the schools will appeal to thrifty Highlanders.

## WEDDING BELLS.

An early morning wedding was solemnised on November 29th, at St. Mary-le-Strand Church, when Miss Gertrude Elizabeth Saunder (retired Matron Q.A.I.M.N.S.), second daughter of Colonel E. C. Saunder, A.A.G., and niece of the late Mr. W. L. Saunder, former Secretary and General Superintendent of the Manchester Royal Infirmary, was married to Major R. G. Thompson, R.A.M.C. (R.P.), son of the late Mr. Samuel Malenoir Thompson, of Cork. The ceremony was performed by the Rector, the Rev. F. Harcourt Hillersdon, M.A.. The bride, who was given away by her mother, wore her travelling dress. The wedding was a quiet one, only near relatives of the bride and bridegroom being present. After the ceremony the happy couple left for Paris.

## A NURSE AS HOSPITAL SPECIALIST AND CONSULTANT.

An interesting venture is being made by Miss M. E. McCalmont, R.N., of Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A., in a field of work unique for a trained nurse. Miss McCalmont has entered into business as a hospital specialist and consultant, as she considers that the American hospital world has so far been badly handicapped by a lack of information as to hospital planning, construction, equipment, and management. Not only has there been a great lack of available practical printed matter in book form, but few, if any experts are acting as consultants along these special lines. Miss McCalmont has held the position of chief of the division of hospital construction and equipment in connection with the Bureau of Health in the Philippine Islands, where she has designed and equipped, wholly or in part, a number of hospitals, receiving high praise from the Governor-General, and the thanks of the Government for her excellent work in this connection. She now offers practical advice with the object of making hospitals satisfactory from the standpoint of doctors, patients, and trustees, and convenient from that of hospital officials, nurses and employees; supplying from one source all necessary information as to equipment, with samples, photographs and prices, also as to suitable regulations, and standard salaries, where economies can be effected, and how annual deficits may be decreased or entirely obliterated. We wish Miss McCalmont all success in her venture.

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