

the late Prince Francis of Teck, and portraits of the Queen and her brother are hung in the wards. In the basement it is interesting to note that there is a room devoted to the scrubbers, where each has a locker, where she can keep her special implements of work, the Matron, Miss Lloyd Still, being of opinion that too little consideration is often given to the needs of scrubbers in this respect. The staff nurses' sitting-room is a cheerful room, quiet and restful, and supplied with numerous easy-chairs in loose covers of charming design. A room, which is the joy of the Matron is the classroom for the pupil nurses, fitted with desks, skeleton, and other necessaries of a well-appointed nursing school; and the nurses, alert, intelligent, and professional, appear likely to profit by the instruction they receive.

In the hall of the new wing, from which the out-patient department is approached, members of the nursing staff were drawn up in line on the occasion of the Queen's visit.

The nurses' bedrooms are single rooms, comfortably furnished. We wonder if the present-day nurses duly appreciate the privilege of sanctuums to themselves, or whether they take it as a matter of course.

In addition to the general kitchen a special kitchen is provided, in which the food of Hebrew patients can be cooked in conformity with the rules of their religion. So far, little demand has been made upon this kitchen, but it will be a comfort to those who are strict observers of the Jewish ritual that their wishes in this respect can have every consideration.

We must not omit to mention that on the ground floor there is, as is fitting, a handsome bust of Mr. H. I. Barnato, by whose munificence the new wing has been added to the hospital. It was executed by Countess Gleichen.

A very interesting discovery made within the last few weeks in the research department is that malignant tumours contain small quantities of radium, shown by emanations from the diseased tissue. The Queen was greatly interested in the evidence of this, and also in the effect of radium in destroying mouse cancer.

Middlesex Hospital is fortunate in possessing a chapel, which is a little gem of its kind, but it is becoming too small for the daily needs of morning and evening prayers, as it only holds 80 people. The marbles and mosaics are both rare and beautiful, and all the jewels mentioned in the Bible are included in the scheme of decoration. One of the latest additions is a memorial to Prince Francis of Teck, within the sanctuary, carried out in alabaster and mosaic work, presented by Mr. Bland Sutton, which the Queen made a point of seeing. M. B.

REFLECTIONS.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, London, had 386 in-patients during last year, and 338 were discharged—249 as good recoveries, 9 as fair, 1 unimproved—and 79 died. There were 2,338 out-patients. The income was sufficient to meet expenditure, 60 new annual subscriptions being received. At the same time, the committee urge on all who are interested the fact that the hospital is practically entirely dependent upon a steady subscription list. More friends are, therefore, much desired.

Mr. F. A. Bevan (treasurer) presided at the annual meeting of St. Peter's Hospital, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden. The report showed that during 1911, 448 patients were admitted, the average period in the hospital having been 24 days. Of these 424 were cured or relieved. The number of out-patients was 3,686, and their attendances 41,484. The total expenditure—£4,955 7s. 8d.—exceeded the income by £228 8s. 7d. The chairman (who has been treasurer of this institution for 46 years), in acknowledging a vote of thanks for presiding, expressed agreement with the hon. surgeons (Drs. F. S. Edwards and F. J. Freyer), as to the advisability of securing a larger building, if possible, capable of containing 100 beds, and hoped the matter, which was serious, would be taken into the consideration of the Committee.

At the annual meeting of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, in the Council's report the important announcement was made that it was now possible to deal with a necessity that had yearly been growing more urgent, viz., the re-building of the hospital. Inadequate and unsuitable accommodation in wards, out-patient department and nurses' home alike, and the impossibility of finding better within the hospital precincts had compelled the Council to face this question. Earl Cadogan, whose interest in the work of the hospital had been shown in many ways, had now befriended it in a most generous manner, by presenting it with a site of over 1½ acres in Chelsea. Here it was to be rebuilt, free from the disturbance of noise, and with half as many beds again, so that there would be no long waiting list as now of those badly needing admission. At the same time the trustees of the Zunz Bequest had promised a most liberal grant of £10,000 to make up the balance of the sum that would be required for construction, and further assistance in maintenance. A rough estimate of the cost had been received, amounting to £43,000; the scheme had been passed, after careful examination, by the King Edward's Hospital Fund, and the Council appealed to the generosity of the public for support in re-establishing the hospital, so that it might deal satisfactorily with its future work. The Princess Henry of Battenberg had lately become one of the Vice-Patrons of the Hospital.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)