

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

A beautiful new Convalescent Home for Women at Swithland, in Leicestershire, was opened on Tuesday by Mrs. C. J. Bond, and is a delightful resort. It is difficult to imagine a place better adapted for restoring health and vigour. Perched on the hillside, and looking across some of the most beautiful scenery in Leicestershire, surrounded by a fringe of woodland which rivals the most delightful spots of Swithland woods for rockstrewn picturesqueness, the Home has all the advantages which pure air and beauty and fitness for its purpose can give.

Sir Edward Wood, Chairman of the Leicester Infirmary, explained last week at a private view the various points of interest. On entering, the visitor will see in the porch two inscribed stones. One explains the circumstances in which the building was erected. It runs:—"This Home was erected by the trustees of the late Edward Higgs, of Leicester, who generously bequeathed a considerable sum of money for the erection of a Convalescent Home, and by the Leicester and County Saturday Hospital Society." Then follow the names of Mr. Orson Wright and Mr. W. Newbery, the trustees under Mr. Higgs' will, and the principal officers of the society. The inscription on the other stone states:—"This Home was opened by Mrs. C. J. Bond on Easter Tuesday, April 9, 1912." The buildings, fittings, and grounds are most tasteful.

The entrance hall and main staircase form one of the most interesting features of the interior architecture of the building. The woodwork is of Kauri pine left almost in its natural state, and the broadly harmonious treatment of the walls, together with the black and white tiles of the floor, give a delightful impression of mingled comfort and beauty and cleanliness.

On the front of the building, which faces south-east, one of the most beautiful rooms is the recreation-room, which can be divided by a partition or thrown into one large room if desired. Cane chairs and lounges are invitingly placed round the room, and the material for music is provided in the shape of a handsome piano and a gramophone. From this room entrance can be obtained to a broad verandah, the roof of which is supported by Doric columns, where patients can sit and enjoy the delicious air and view. There is also a delightful "quiet room," the very atmosphere of which breathes peace and contentment, and which has one of the very best views to be obtained from the downstairs rooms.

The bedrooms are most comfortably furnished, and baths and sanitary fittings all of the best. An interesting feature of the furnishing is the fact that the cost of providing the fittings for every department has been provided by some special contribution—either an individual or a firm—whose name appears on a plate on the door of each room.

The grounds are laid out in charming fashion, and in a year or two will look much better than they do at present. The main beauty of the grounds, however, lies in the five acres of woodland which surround the Home, where charming walks have been provided, and whence an even finer view can be obtained than that from the Home itself. The building and its surroundings reflect the greatest credit on all concerned in its erection, and will undoubtedly be a great boon to poor convalescent women and to all those who depend upon their health for all their home happiness.

REFLECTIONS.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The King Edward Memorial Nurses' Home at Nelson was opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. S. Davies) on Saturday afternoon.

A permanent county memorial to King Edward for Berkshire is to take the form of a children's ward at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading. Over £6,250 has already been raised.

The sum of £5,000 has been subscribed towards the Hertfordshire County Memorial to King Edward, and the amount has been distributed among the eleven hospitals in the county and the Herts Convalescent Homes at St. Leonards.

Lord Lister has bequeathed to the University of Edinburgh the insignia of the Order of Merit, and of the Prussian Order of Knighthood, his medals, diplomas and distinctions, including the caskets containing the freedom of the cities of London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, and of the Merchant Taylors' Company, the trowel presented to him when opening a new nurses' home at Montreal, and his portrait in oils.

Mr. Ameer Ali, President of the British Red Crescent Mission in Tripoli, is appealing for funds in support of the work of the Red Crescent Society. He has received word from the director of the Mission from Dahibat that "the refugee coast population are suffering from starvation," and asking that an appeal may be made to Great Britain, India, Egypt and the British Colonies for relief funds.

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