

REFLECTIONS.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Lady Constance Hatch, the treasurer and chairman of the Royal Ear Hospital, Dean Street, Soho, has issued an appeal for this institution, which offers treatment to the deaf poor. It is the oldest hospital of its kind in Europe, at which first class work is done, is managed with great economy, is entirely without endowment, but it is burdened with a mortgage debt of £4,000 upon the building, and its income falls short of its needs by £300 per annum.

Queen Alexandra and the Empress Marie Feodorovna of Russia paid an unexpected visit to the West Norfolk and Lynn Hospital last week, and were shown through the establishment by the matron, Miss Swain. Their Majesties inspected the bust of King Edward VII, recently unveiled.

Pound Day is now a most popular institution in many hospitals, and at the Essex and Colchester Hospital recently no less than 5,250 lbs. of groceries were received, besides 650 eggs. Over £5 was received in money, which defrayed all expenses of postage. The result must have been very gratifying to the Matron, Miss Winifred Bickham.

The second annual meeting of the Ladies' Linen League, in connection with the General Hospital, Northampton, presided over by Lady Dawnay, proved that the year's work had been most successful, 2,253 articles, valued at £166 were contributed, and £131 given in subscriptions. Ten easy chairs have also been presented to the wards, besides linen and blankets.

THE ASYLUM WORKERS' ASSOCIATION.

MEDALS FOR LONG AND MERITORIOUS NURSING SERVICE.

The Executive Committee awarded the gold and silver medals of the Association for the year 1912 to the following members, and they will be presented at the Annual Meeting on the 22nd inst.

GOLD.

Attendant N. Livingstone, Argyll and Bute Asylum.

Nurse M. J. Goodchild, Banstead, L.C.A.

SILVER.

Attendant R. Walters, Fort England Asylum, Grahamstown, S. Africa.

BRONZE.

Five bronze medals to the unsuccessful candidates for the above.

These medals will be presented by the President Sir William J. Collins, M.D., F.R.C.S., at the annual general meeting, on May 22nd, 1912, at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.

THE NURSING CONFERENCE.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 25th.

SESSION I.

Miss Amy Hughes, General Superintendent, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, presided both at the afternoon and evening sessions on Friday, and proved an excellent chairman, stimulating the Conference by suggestive remarks, and guiding its deliberations.

THE WORK OF A MATERNITY ASSOCIATION AND MOTHER-CRAFT CLUB.

Miss Morgan, a Queen's Nurse connected with the Canterbury Maternity Charity, in an interesting paper, said that in 1910 the committee of the Charity engaged a trained-nurse-midwife; visits were paid to St. Pancras School for Mothers, and the Marylebone Dispensary, and the work was started in three rooms, with capital of £13, £10 of which was on loan, so that they were not able to provide much furniture. But they purchased a pair of scales, costing £5, which are the envy of all who visit the Club; and a certain amount of printing was done. The members meet weekly, and pay 1d. a week. A lecture is given from 2-3, on such subjects as "Self-control," "Punishment," &c. While the lecture is proceeding, the mothers knit or sew, and their children are cared for in separate rooms. At three o'clock a doctor attends, and at four a cup of tea brings the afternoon to a close.

The object of the club is to teach mother-craft, and thus to prevent infantile mortality; also to care for the health of the mother in pregnancy; to help mothers to save during pregnancy and to provide them with nourishing, well-cooked food.

Miss Morgan also emphasised the desirability of confinements taking place in hospitals. In reply to questions, she said (1) That dinners are not directly provided for nursing mothers, but tickets are given them, to go to a cheap restaurant, where a good dinner is provided for 5d.; (2) There is a savings bank, through which expectant mothers can put by, for the expense of doctor, midwife, extra nourishment, &c.

ON PREPARING AND READING LECTURES.

Miss du Sautoy, County Superintendent, Somerset Nursing Association, presented an excellent paper on the above subject, which we hope to deal with more fully in a future issue. As a practical hint to those giving such lectures, she suggested that they should be called Nursing rather than Hygiene lectures.

Miss Rosalind Paget inquired whether nurses who undertake such important work as lecturing, in addition to their other duties, get higher salaries; the reply was in the negative. Another question was whether a fully-trained nurse should lecture for a fee of less than 10s. 6d., when lady doctors receive a guinea, and get their information from the nurses. Miss du Sautoy did not think it could be done, unless the lecture was worked in

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