

of the Home is a garden, permitting the free circulation of air—air which we know is charged with the revivifying seabreezes from the Irish Channel, and also blows across the scented heather and gorse of the Wicklow mountains. An opening in the wall leads to the garden of the adjoining house where Miss Huxley lives, and where she and Mrs. Manning extended to some fortunate members of the recent Nursing Conference that Irish hospitality of which one has often heard, but which must be felt for its charm, its gaiety, and its informality, and its extent must be experienced to be fully appreciated.

EXAMINATIONS AND MEDALS.

At the Bradford Royal Infirmary on September 3rd, Lady Godwin presented medals to the nurses who had obtained the highest number of marks in the recent examination. Dr. McEwan read the examiners' report, which showed a very high percentage of marks in all classes. The gold medal for senior nurses went to Nurse Raithby, with a percentage of 96½ marks; the silver medal for junior nurses was awarded to Nurse Windham, who secured a percentage of 89½; and Nurse Barrett, who had previously won a gold and silver medal, won a bronze medal in respect of maintaining a high standard of work for three years, and other bronze medalists were Nurses Raithby, Middlemiss, C. Eason, M. Eason, and R. Robinson. Lady Godwin, besides presenting the medals, also presented certificates, sixteen of which were for cooking. Mr. George Priestman, the chairman of the House Committee, presided at the ceremony, and among others present were Sir Arthur Godwin, Mr. Herbert Gill, Mr. J. B. Sleight, and Dr. Dunlop.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

A Preliminary Meeting of the "National Union of Trained Nurses" was held at the "County Hospital, Bedford," when Miss Fry of Bristol very ably explained the objects of the Society. The chair was taken by Dr. E. M. Stacy who also spoke of the great value the Society would prove to nurses. The meeting was well attended and followed by light refreshments and an interesting discussion on the advantages of joining the Society.

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

As might have been expected, owing to the increase in the cost of living, in all directions, the report of the King Edward's Fund for Hospitals calls attention to the increased expenditure in 109 London hospitals for the past year. The

report deals with nearly all the hospitals of London, which taken together provided a total of 9,223 beds in average daily occupation in 1912. The total number of in-patients admitted during that year was 134,647, while 1,529,197 patients attended at the out-patient departments. The total ordinary expenditure during the year at these hospitals, including maintenance, administration, rent, rates, and taxes, but excluding expenditure on improvements and additions or other capital expenditure, and also before charging interest on borrowed money, amounted to £1,038,791. The average cost per bed at the fifteen larger hospitals worked out at £82 rs. 4d., and the average cost per out-patient attendance at 7.43d., as compared with £79 6s. 2d. and 7.04d. in 1911. The one outstanding fact is that the upkeep of the hospitals steadily grows, and will continue to do so until there is much more co-operation in their management and some system of really effective inspection and central expert assistance.

A legacy left by Mrs. Alice Ann Ryder of Bournemouth (formerly of Middleton, Lancs) of £20,000 will shortly be available for the purpose of erecting and endowing a hospital.

Duff House, Banff, presented by the late Duke of Fife to the citizens of Banff and Macduff, has been acquired by a company and transformed into an establishment for the treatment of diseases of nutrition.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, who was accompanied by the Countess of Aberdeen, last week laid the foundation stone of a new extension to the Donnybrook Hospital for Incurables, Dublin. In the course of a sympathetic reply to an address read by Mr. William Fry, J.P., on behalf of the Governors and Guardians, Lord Aberdeen said that he first came into contact with this beneficent work twenty-six years ago, when one of the principal and guiding friends of the institution was Mr. David Drummond, a name always to be remembered with affectionate esteem. Since then, continuously, the beautiful ministry of this establishment has been steadily and increasingly maintained. Well may they therefore, as a community, offer their heartfelt and grateful good wishes to all who were maintaining and promoting this beneficent enterprise. And in such an expression, of course, they thought particularly of those on whom the immediate and daily responsibility of the management devolved. The name of Miss Bradshaw would at once occur to many friends; and to her and all her coadjutors and assistants they offered cordial greetings and good wishes. And to Mr. William Fry, whose name was so splendidly associated with this work, and all his colleagues, congratulations must be mingled with confident good wishes for the success of the extension of the work to be inaugurated.

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