

## REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR

The Duke of Devonshire informs the press that he will preside at the Festival Dinner in aid of the London Lock Hospital and Rescue Home, at the Hotel Metropole, on November 4th. His Grace writes:—

"The Hospital was founded in 1746 with the object of relieving bodily suffering, and the Rescue Home in 1787 for the reclamation of the women and girls. There is also a Children's Ward, always full of little ones, whose only inheritance is a legacy of disease.

"The Hospital depends almost entirely upon Voluntary Support and for its maintenance nearly £12,000 is required annually.

"The Institution is nearly £10,000 in debt, the General Fund having severely suffered from the special efforts of the re-building of the Out-Patients' Department, and erecting a Nurses' Home.

"Unless a supreme effort is made it will be necessary to close some of the Wards.

"Under these circumstances I earnestly appeal for help."

We sincerely hope there will be a most generous response to this appeal. The Hospital is doing its work in a very wonderful way—and such work, all connected with it need all the encouragement they can get.

A scheme for the erection of a new infirmary at Tulse Hill at a cost of £200,000 is under the consideration of the Lambeth Guardians, whose present institutions are in a very crowded condition.

The Masonic Nursing Home, soon to be instituted, will provide, on a contributory basis, a nursing home for Freemasons, the facilities being probably extended from the outset to their wives and families. The present proposal is particularly interesting to those who believe that the smaller "voluntary" hospitals will in the future tend to rely more and more upon the paying patient, the large general hospitals to develop on medical school lines, and the State Infirmaries to become the hospitals for the poor.

The newly amalgamated hospitals and medical schools of St. George's and Westminster Hospitals are to build a hospital containing 500 beds, as it has been stipulated that every member of the present staff of both hospitals shall retain a position equivalent to that which he now holds.

In response to numerous requests it has been decided to defer the closing of the Historical Medical Museum at 54A, Wigmore Street, London, W., until October 31st. During the month of October it will remain open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. After this date it will be closed for a few months

for re-arrangement as a Permanent Museum. It is proposed to re-open the Museum in its permanent form in the spring of next year.

Requests totalling over £60,000 have been made to Glasgow and to Scottish institutions by the trustees of the late Mr. William Weir. The legacies, free of duty, include £10,000 each to Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Glasgow Western Infirmary, £5,000 to the Glasgow Victoria Infirmary, and £2,000 each to Kilmarnock and Ayr Infirmaries.

The Child Study Society, London, has arranged a course of interesting Lectures and discussions, between October 9th, and December 4th, to be held at the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W., at 7.30 p.m. "Mental Differences between the Sexes of School Children," by Mr. Cyril Burt, M.A., Psychologist to the London County Council, is the subject on Thursday this week. Lectures on Child Speech; Care of Children under School Age; The Education and Psychological Aspect of the Training of Children before School Age, and Left-Handedness are included in the course.

A logical and admirable conclusion to the recent agitation in favour of humane slaughtering is the new propaganda to be instituted by the Council of Justice for Animals, a branch of the R.S.P.C.A. The council holds if it were possible to guarantee that the animals sold at particular butchers' shops had been killed in a humane fashion, many animal lovers would patronise such establishments. It therefore proposes to open a model abattoir where painless methods are adopted, and to arrange to supply certain shops therefrom.

## A NOVEL EXHIBITION.

Last year saw the celebration of the centenary of gas-lighting as a practical commercial undertaking in Great Britain; and we are this month provided with a monster Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush, under the auspices of the various bodies—scientific, commercial and philanthropic—who are interested in gas and the amazing variety of its applications in the modern world.

Concurrently with the Exhibition, a Congress is being held at which discussion is being directed towards gas as a factor in the study of our present-day sociology, as affecting eye-sight, atmosphere, food, health, manufactures, advertising, and the various arts of domestic decoration and economy.

On October 16th there will be a lecture by Mlle. Claire de Pratz, at 8 p.m., on "The Gentlewoman and Her Kitchen." The same eloquent lady will speak on "The French Hostess and her English Sister." Miss Constance Smith will lecture on "The Silent Servant" on the 30th inst.; and on the 31st the Lady Mayoress of London will present prizes to winners in the cookery competitions.

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