

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The visit of the King and Queen to the Palladium Theatre, on March 17th, has had the excellent result of bringing £2,000 to the Fund for Rebuilding the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

The interest shown by the King and Queen in the welfare of the blind, by their visit to the National Institute for the Blind, in Great Portland Street, W., last week, when the King formally opened the new buildings, was deeply appreciated by this most pathetic class of the community. Numbers of blind people were to be seen in the crowd in Great Portland Street; a guard of honour was formed of blind Boy Scouts; the address of welcome to their Majesties was read by Dr. Ranger from Braille type; the Normal College for the Blind supplied the choristers; and a demonstration of shorthand and typewriting was given by a blind girl operator, with the greatest promptitude and accuracy. The King's sympathetic speech will, no doubt, do much to stimulate interest in the Mansion House Fund, through which the Lord Mayor is hoping to raise £130,000 for the objects of the Institute.

The additional premises at the Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, S.W., including an Outpatient Hall, with dispensary and necessary offices; an extension of the Nurses' Home, including nurses' sitting room, writing room, twenty-one bedrooms, four bathrooms and new Research Laboratories, which are being provided and furnished by the Treasurer (Mr. Robert Mond) are expected to be ready for occupation in June.

The Board of Management of the General Hospital, Birmingham, reports that it has sanctioned an addition to the personnel of the Massage Department, but in view of the necessity of this form of treatment, a large addition must be made to the accommodation, as well as to the staff, to meet the requirements. The effect of the National Insurance Act has been to increase the number of patients in the voluntary hospitals, and at the same time the Board reports with regret that no single subscription has been given to the hospital by the Insurance Committees, or by Approved Societies, under Clause 21; and only ten contributions have been received from societies towards the maintenance of patients who have no dependents. The Board also report that the arrangement by which many cases have been referred to the District Nursing Societies in Birmingham and district has proved successful; and it is satisfied of the great advantage to the patients. The Board, in conclusion, expresses its hearty appreciation of the services rendered by the House Governor (Mr. Howard J. Collins); and offer their cordial thanks to Miss Musson (the Matron), and the Nursing Staff.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital it was decided in future to receive typhoid cases into the hospital. It was pointed out that it was not right to send from the hospital nurses as fully qualified unless they had had an experience in dealing with such cases.

Now that the additional wards had been added, it was stated, there was ample room for such patients, and the hospital medical staff considered it highly desirable that such a course should be adopted.

The King and Queen will visit the Fair City of Perth on Saturday, July 11, for the purpose of performing the opening ceremony at the new Infirmary.

The King, who is the patron of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Association, has approved the appointment by the Secretary of State for War of a Committee to enquire into the relations between the two societies, in order to try to effect a fusion of their work. It is an open secret that there has been friction between the two for some years, and it is very desirable that these differences should be adjusted.

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There are few nurses who have not at one time or another visited the fine establishment of the Hospitals and General Contracts Co., Ltd., at 25-35, Mortimer Street, London, W., and been delighted with the convenience of the arrangements, and the standard and moderate prices of the goods supplied to them.

But nurses are migratory people, and often duty takes them far away from London. They should, therefore, avail themselves of the very complete illustrated price lists issued by the firm, from which it is easy to make selections and give orders. Country orders of £2 and over are sent carriage paid, and orders over 5s. are delivered free within the radius of Carter Paterson's delivery.

The Drug Price List now before us is divided into five sections, including Drugs, Chemicals and Pharmaceutical Preparations, H. G. C. Products Proprietary Preparations, Toilet Articles and Sundries; it is a comprehensive and complete guide to the goods stocked in this department, which would be most convenient for reference, and should be filed for this purpose.

Amongst useful appliances of which the firm are the sole makers are the "Christie" female urinal; the "Grahame" bolster, for retaining a patient in the "Fowler" position—both the inventions of nurses; and the "Lansdown" bed rest.

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