

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Queen Alexandra has intimated her intention of being present at the Red Cross field day at Brooklands on June 20th.

An anonymous donor has given £1,500 to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital for the endowment of a bed and a cot.

A grand bazaar will be held in the Shoreditch Town Hall on June 10th, 11th, and 12th, in support of the Queen's Hospital for Children at Hackney. The enlargement of the Out-patient department and wards for isolation cases are urgently needed. The mayors of Bethnal Green, Hackney, Shoreditch, and Stoke Newington are organising stalls representing their respective boroughs. £67,000 has recently been spent on new buildings and improvements, of which only £580 remains to be collected. About £3,000 is required to bring the whole hospital into structural efficiency.

Sir George Kenrick has given £18,000 to endow a Chair of Physics at the Birmingham University.

The new Nurses' Home in connection with the Bolton Infirmary, erected through the King Edward Memorial Fund, will soon be completed. The opening ceremony will take place on Saturday afternoon, July 18th, and it will be performed by Sir Thomas Barlow, the eminent physician, and well-respected Bolton townsman.

Mr. F. B. Sharp, a well-known jute manufacturer in Dundee, who has generously supported many of the charitable institutions in the city, has offered a sum of £10,000 for the purpose of assisting the proposal to build and endow a sick children's hospital in Dundee. Mr. Sharp lays down the condition that the institution is to be managed by the directors of the Infirmary, and that if the necessary funds for the building and endowment of the hospital are not forthcoming within two years, his offer will be withdrawn.

WHERE TO BUY BOOKS.

Nurses who are thinking of replenishing their professional library may spend a very pleasant time studying the catalogues of the various publishers who cater for their needs, or in visiting their establishments, and inspecting the attractive volumes on view.

MESSRS. H. K. LEWIS.

The books published by Messrs. H. K. Lewis, 136, Gower Street, W.C., are general favourites with nurses. The "Lectures on Tuberculosis of Nurses," by Mr. Oliver Bruce, M.R.C.S., are most valuable. A complete catalogue of the publications of this firm may be had on application.

LORD WOLMER AND STATE REGISTRATION.

A short time ago, when our very sincere friend His Excellency, Sir Ronald C. Munro-Ferguson (who had charge for nine years of the Nurses' Registration Bill in the House of Commons) was deservedly honoured by his appointment as Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia, we took occasion to refer to the many eminent men who had during those years backed the Bill, and who had been promoted to high office in the State, beginning with the Right Hon. Viscount Haldane, now Lord High Chancellor, and Speaker in the House of Lords. From this fact we drew the conclusion that nursing organisation by the State appealed to politicians possessed of liberal sympathies, and sound good sense. Thus it has always been the rule of the promoters of the Nurses' Registration Bill to invite the support of men of earnest purpose, and in asking Lord Wolmer in 1912 to back the measure, he reciprocated the courtesy in the following kind letter:—

"DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—

"Thank you for your letter. I should be pleased to back your Bill which you have been kind enough to send me, though I am afraid I cannot ballot for it owing to having other Bills on my hands.

"Believe me,

"Yours sincerely,

"WOLMER."

In 1913 Lord Wolmer was again invited to back the Bill, to which he replied on the postcard sent for the purpose: "I should be pleased to back the same Nurses' Bill again."

As there was no change in the text of the Bill in 1914, Lord Wolmer was not asked for his consent a third time.

In the meanwhile Lord Wolmer has "modified" his views on Registration, and desires his name dissociated from the Bill. This we are informed can only be done by withdrawing the Bill, when it cannot be re-introduced this session, and such a course would deprive us of the record majority of 228, by which it so triumphantly passed its first reading in the House of Commons on March 3rd.

Naturally this would be too high a price to pay for a misunderstanding which has been courteously explained to Lord Wolmer, both by Dr. Chapple and our Executive Committee. Lord Wolmer, therefore, decided to block the Nurses Bill, which he continues to do in spite of several letters from Dr. Chapple urging him to follow the example of his uncle, Lord Robert Cecil, who has removed his blocking motion.

To make the position quite clear to the public the correspondence between these two gentlemen has been sent to the press—as from Lord Wolmer's statements it is not made clear that he ever gave his consent to back the Bill, and Dr. Chapple is

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