

Nursing Echoes.

* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.*



MISS ANNESLEY KENEALY has favoured us with the following account of the important proceedings last Wednesday.

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 "Sunshine and showers; hopes and fears alternating; hopes when the sun shone, fears when the rain rained, lest the ceremonial of opening the new offices of the Royal British Nurses' Association might be marred by bad weather. A final brightening of skies and faces as the hour drew near for the arrival of H.R.H. Princess CHRISTIAN, who graciously came on from a function in Camberwell, to preside on so interesting an occasion.

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 Flowers and brightness everywhere to welcome her; and a beautiful bouquet of La France and red roses, the kindly gift of Miss BRANCKER, ready on the table for "our Princess'" acceptance. It seemed almost an "embarrassment of riches" when Miss Thowld, as Vice-Chairman of the Association, presented another bouquet—a lovely shower of carnations.

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 The meeting was opened by the Bishop of RYON with the Lord's Prayer, followed by a prayer of dedication. Addressing the meeting, he said that it gave him great pleasure to be present on such an occasion, and he would like to occupy their attention for a few minutes in saying how much he appreciated the work that Nurses are doing. It was his habit in walking abroad to scrutinise the faces of the passers-by; wherever he went he noted the weariness and the wistfulness of human faces, and it appeared to him that the cause of the almost universal weariness of expression was a sense of an unfulfilled life, or a feeling on the part of the individual that he had not reached a satisfactory point. The smiles amidst the clouded faces were found among the Nurses; he was struck by their all-pervading cheerfulness and brightness, and, it seemed to him, the reason was that the Nurse was absorbed in self-sacrifice and noble duty to others, and in this self-forgetfulness she found her happiness and rest. Much had been said recently about what was called the "Revolt of the

Daughters"—whether rightly or wrongly so-called he would not venture to say. It was interesting to seek the cause of this "revolt," and to find the answer to what this complaint expressed. Doubtless the daughters had revolted because of their unused energies—because they had not yet found the expression of themselves, which was so necessary to happy life. The average woman had a certain place in the world; a round of duties and civilities and hospitalities; but in this there was often a want of satisfaction of spirit. The Nurses have "found themselves" and their niche, and they not only express their energies, but they satisfy their hearts in working for others. The only joy in life was time spent in serving in love and charity and living unto higher things. Love does not ask for gain, it simply seeks to do service. Out of the Royal British Nurses' Association will spring many a benediction. He liked to think of the new offices as being one little citadel for the forces of love, energy, and service to mankind; and he would wish them all prosperity in their noble work.

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 Sir WILLIAM SAVORY, who sat on the left of the Princess, said he regarded it as an honour to be allowed, on behalf of the Members, to present an illuminated Address to the Princess CHRISTIAN as a token of appreciation of her incessant labors for the benefit of the R.B.N.A. She gave a promise of interest in the future, and all present had a grateful sense of the part she had taken in the past. The proceedings to-day were a signal of increasing prosperity, and afforded another opportunity for all present to thank her for the unselfish and hard-working devotion to the movement from its inception.

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 Sir WILLIAM SAVORY then presented Her Royal Highness with a beautifully illuminated Address, which stood on the table on an easel draped with yellow silk. It is a very artistic souvenir, and the Princess CHRISTIAN shewed great pleasure in its reception, and expressed her admiration of the design.

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 H.R.H., who wore a lovely mantle of green velvet trimmed with yellow lace, made a very graceful acknowledgement of the gift, and spoke of the great pleasure it gave her to take part in the opening of the new premises. She said she received the Address with much gratification. The audience knew the deep interest she felt in the Nurses of the Association, and she could not too strongly express the pride and pleasure she felt in being their President. She would feel stimulated to fresh efforts for the great work she had at heart. No

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