

Annotations.

THE WOMEN'S MEMORIAL TO QUEEN VICTORIA.

Nine-tenths of the total sum (£84,000) handed to their Majesties the King and Queen by the Executive Committee of the Women's Memorial to Queen Victoria has been subscribed in small sums—from 1d. and upwards. It seems, a pity, therefore, that of the four million contributors the only section represented on the Executive Committee should have been the aristocratic one. We should have liked to see some representation accorded to those women of the middle and working classes who subscribed nine-tenths of the money. We think also that the officials connected with this Fund, the women's memorial to a great woman Sovereign, and dealing with a calling essentially womanly, should have been women. The object of the memorial is a noble one, and probably no women do more useful work in this country than those who are to be found scattered throughout its towns and villages in the uniform of Queen's nurses.

THE SUNDAY REST.

Under the auspices of the London Branch of the Christian Social Union a public meeting was held at the Holborn Town Hall recently "On Labour's Claim to Sunday Rest." The Archbishop of Canterbury presided, and Canon Scott Holland and other well-known clergymen were present. Several Sisters and nurses, were to be seen amongst the audience which filled the body of the Hall. Nurses are certainly a section of the community to whom the Sunday rest, as it is generally understood, is unattainable. In their strenuous lives work must be done on Sundays as on other days; for this reason they should have a liberal allowance of off-duty time during the week. Yet even nurses find that Sunday brings to them the peace which is associated with it, and there are few who, if they are so minded, cannot attend Divine service once during the day.

FOR THE CHILDREN'S SAKE.

The Archdeacon of Westminster presided last week at a drawing-room meeting held in the Speaker's House in aid of the funds of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Mr. Asquith, M.P., said that during his tenure of office as Home Secretary he had ample opportunity of seeing the method of the Society's operations and the value of the results achieved. He was sure that the

overwhelming testimony of His Majesty's judges, from the Lord Chief Justice downwards, would be that the Society had discharged its difficult and delicate mission with success. He earnestly commended the Society to the support of the public.

WOMEN GARDENERS.

Among the means by which women may earn a living at the present day none is more attractive than that of gardening. Colleges are now in existence where they can obtain a thorough training to fit them for this branch of work, and the fact that an increasing number of women are applying for admission to these institutions shows that the opportunity they afford is appreciated. Among the foremost is the Horticultural College, Swanley, which was founded in 1889 for the purpose of providing a sound education in horticulture and the allied subjects. It is significant that, owing to the fact that women enter as students in increasingly larger numbers than men, the Governing Body determined to reorganise the College in September, 1902, as a Women's College only, under Miss F. R. Wilkinson as Resident Principal; a change which will secure greater economy, and will, in the words of the report for last year, "greatly promote the comfort of the women students." Co-education is, apparently, not appreciated by women students of gardening. The College aims chiefly at giving a thoroughly systematic training to women who wish to become market-growers and gardeners in private places, but the course is also useful in fitting women-students to act efficiently as land-owners, lecturers, stewards, and for intending colonists. The College stands in forty-three acres of freehold land, of which about two acres are flower garden, twelve kitchen and market garden, seventeen fruit plantation, and the remainder playing fields.

The College year is divided into three terms of about thirteen weeks each, the fees being from £80 a year. The courses for the full Diploma of the College, and for its certificate, which are awarded after examination, both last for two years. The teaching is both practical and theoretical, stress being laid on the due combination and relative proportions of the two kinds of work. Special care is taken in the elementary training of each student. No gardening operation is considered as too menial, the method being that actual work accompanies, under skilled supervision, the theoretical instruction.

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