

gramme there was an interval for speeches, when the Mayor of the Borough, wearing his chain of office, in a pleasant little speech, thanked Lady Frederick Brudenell-Bruce in its name for her presence there to receive the collecting cards and boxes.

Lady Frederick Bruce then read the list of amounts obtained during the past year by this method, the total sum being over £96, and urged the supporters of the Association to still greater endeavour.

The next speaker was Sir William Bull, M.P., member for Hammersmith, and a member of the Council of the Association, who described it as one of the best charities in Hammersmith. He said that financially it was a cause of anxiety to the leaders of borough life, but if each of the 300,000 inhabitants of the borough gave 1d. a year that would provide for its needs. At present the staff was overworked, and ought to be increased. They had only seven nurses to cover an enormous district. He concluded by moving a vote of thanks to Lady Frederick Bruce. This was seconded by Mr. E. G. von Glehn, Chairman of Committee, and supported by the Rev. G. N. Walsh, Vicar of St. Paul's, Hammersmith, who referred to Miss Curtis's business-like methods and social qualities. Miss Curtis added a few appreciative words on the work of the collectors which were very cordially received.

Speaking at the Annual Meeting of the Queen's Nurses' Association, at Hove, the Bishop of Lewes spoke in warm terms of appreciation of the work, and remarked that it was in sickness that poverty was most severely felt. "It is then that we who are better off ought to step in to equalise matters, and say, 'We will give you the same opportunity as ourselves of getting well.'" In conclusion, he referred to the intention of providing fresh accommodation for the nurses, and insisted upon the necessity for their being provided with suitable and comfortable quarters.

Mr. Ernest Burchell said he saw more of the work of the Queen's Nurses than possibly anybody else, and he could bear testimony to the enormous amount of good they accomplished. A nurse was a missionary who preached the gospel of cleanliness, and he would much rather deal with a clean heathen than a dirty Christian.

There is a movement in Scotland to provide Queen's Nurses for the Outer Hebrides. The poorer and more isolated the people, the more

efficient should their nurses be. May it be long before the Scottish poor are handed over to the insufficiently trained.

"Alexia" sends us the following little true record of gratitude:—

"Some years before I was old enough to be taken to train in a London hospital, I used to work very busily in our parish at home. I must have been about 17, when one night I was awakened by showers of gravel being thrown at my window. I slipped on a dressing gown, and opened it. To my surprise there stood a gipsy boy, and he asked me to come down to the camp (a distance of 1½ miles from our house) to see a child who was dying. The mother was a sister of a woman living in my district, and had married a gipsy. I asked my father what I should do, and he said he would drive me down, and the boy could help him to put in the horse, and ride too.

"We found it as he said, and I decided to stay and do my best in my untrained way for the child. Most of every day I spent in the caravan, and the doctor in charge of the case was very good to his little patient. She recovered, and for years and years, whenever those people were near our town, they sent me the most weird and wonderful presents to show their gratitude.

"It must have been ten years later I was staying in Hampshire with my sister—my old home having been in Devonshire—when a cavalcade of gipsies passed. I ran down to the gate with my small nephew to watch them go by.

"A swarthy, disreputable looking ruffian left the line and came up to me: "Be'ant you Jim H——'s daughter from E——?" "Yes, I am." He took my hand, and shook it furiously, whilst tears stood in his eyes. "God bless 'ee, my dear. 'Ee saved my little gran'chil's life, and the gipsies will never forget 'ee, nor will they forget that Jim H——'s father let us camp on his land when everybody else druv us for'ard." Another shake of the hand and my well wisher was gone."

The plan suggested to one of the large life insurance companies of the United States by Miss Wald, head of the Nurses' Settlement in New York, of establishing a system of visiting nursing among their policy holders of limited means, has been widely extended already, and promises to show most gratifying results.

Miss Wald's advice has been loyally and literally followed by the medical officer directing the work. Her counsel to him was, *not* to have the company undertake forming its own staff of nurses, but to form an alliance with the Visiting Nurse Associations that are now to be found in every large city, and arrange for the nursing care and work to be undertaken by them. The company, of course, pays the salaries of additional nurses. The results are very good, indeed, so far. The work has been taken up in Boston, Cleveland, Chicago, and a number of other large cities, and the com-

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