

### Nursing Echoes.



Hospital nurses are receiving invitations from many kind people to view the Coronation and Royal Progress. Ten Bart's Sisters will be the guests of Mr. Astor at Carlton House Terrace on the 22nd, and Lady Wernher has also invited hospital nurses to Bath House, Piccadilly, a privilege all greatly appreciate. St. Thomas', Westminster, St. George's, and Charing Cross Hospitals being on the route it is hoped the nursing staff of each institution will get a good view of these historical events.

The Lady Mayoress (Lady Vezey Strong) has sent to each of the Principal Matrons of the four general hospitals of the Territorial Force Nursing Service for the City and County of London three invitations to the Mansion House on June 23rd. These are sure to be very greatly appreciated.

One hundred Queen's Nurses are to have the privilege of seeing the Naval Review at Portsmouth on Saturday, June 24th. Places have most kindly been allotted to them on the gun-boat *Seagull*.

The Annual Report of the Nurses' Missionary League for 1911 announces that in London during the past year good progress has been made in the already existing branches in some hospitals, and a few new ones have been formed. Meetings are now held regularly in twenty hospitals in London and fifteen in the provinces. Some of these are visited by the Secretary and other members of the Committee, but in twenty-eight regular meetings are conducted by the members themselves. Several Missionaries have taken meetings for the League. Miss C. M. Ironside, M.B., of Persia (on whose initiative the League was founded), and Miss C. F. Tippet (N. China), have especially helped to stir up interest in missionary work.

In the provinces the work still continues to advance. Miss de Lasalle has visited Bradford, Leeds, Stoke, Birkenhead, etc., and new branches have been started in Bradford and other places. Most encouraging progress is reported from the two branches in Ireland, and from Tunbridge Wells, and new openings have been gained in Bristol and Cheltenham. At Birmingham much interest was aroused at the Missionary Exhibition last June by an N.M.L. stall.

No nurses need more thorough training and experience than those engaged in school nursing. In London, under the London County Council, and the superintendence of Miss H. L. Pearse, the standard is well maintained, but in the provinces there is sometimes a tendency on the part of some local authorities to be satisfied with an inferior qualification, which is a manifest danger.

We are glad to learn from the *Australasian Nurses' Journal* that the Tasmanian members of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association have officially protested to the Minister of Education, Hobart, against the appointment of an irregularly trained and unregistered School Nurse in Launceston. Our contemporary points out "how impossible it is to expect any but a thoroughly trained and experienced nurse to satisfactorily discharge the manifold duties demanded by the position. The work includes the carrying out of minor surgical dressings, attention to chronic ear, eye, and other cases, and when necessary visits to the children's homes. Many of these duties must of necessity be carried out without direct medical supervision, and the nurse must herself recognise the conditions requiring immediate attention." It asks further, "How can any but a nurse thoroughly trained in all branches of her profession fill this position without risk, or perhaps disaster, to those children under her care?"

We wish every School Nurse, and indeed everyone interested in children in towns, had heard the fascinating lecture given last week by Miss Grace Parsons, of New York, at a meeting of the Public Health Section of the National Union of Women Workers. The subject of the lecture, which was illustrated by charming lantern slides, was "School Children's Gardens and Their Influence on the National Health." The movement was founded in New York nine years ago by Mrs. Parsons, the mother of the lecturer, who, as a member of the Women's Municipal League, visited the schools and found that the children of the poor had not the natural environment in which to grow. The movement for providing them with gardens in which they might be taught gardening and nature study as a recreation was the outcome. Some of the children in New York have never seen a blade of grass. The first garden was started in the vicinity of a place known as "Hell's Kitchen," where the ground was so hard that it had to be broken up in the same way as asphalt; the soil beneath this crust was so poor that nothing would grow

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