

The King's Guests at the Crystal Palace.

Coronation Day, the Royal Progress, the Special Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's Cathedral attended by their Majesties the King and Queen, are all never to be forgotten memories of a historic week, but the function which unquestionably gave the greatest happiness at this season was that of Friday, June 30th, when the King and Queen entertained 100,000 of the school children of London at the Crystal Palace, and gave them a day of sheer enjoyment, which to their lives' end they can never forget. To arrange for the transport of so large a number of children without a hitch was a miracle of organisation. It was due to the perfection of the arrangements made by the organising committee, the good discipline maintained by the teachers working in the London County Council schools—for the discipline was the result of habit, not the growth of a day—the care shown by the L.C.C. School Nurses, one of whom accompanied each train, by which the children travelled to the Palace, the precision of the arrangements of the railway officials, and last, but not least, to the good behaviour of the children themselves.

From no section of his subjects has the King received more loyal or sincere greeting and devotion than from the children of the London schools. Their Majesties, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Princess Mary, and Prince George, as they drove through the grounds, were greeted with a storm of cheers from the children. At one point no less than 25,000 children were assembled, and the warmth of their spontaneous welcome manifestly gave pleasure to their royal hosts. Before leaving, their Majesties visited the hospital, where happily the cases were not really serious. Some children suffered from train sickness, and collapsed from giddiness, which was not surprising, as they were too happy and excited to take their breakfast before leaving home.

The London County Council is sincerely to be congratulated on the splendid organisation of the fête and the reception of the organising committee by the King at Buckingham Palace next morning was a well deserved honour.

We publish below the names of the Committee: Mr. R. Blair (chairman), Mr. H. Bradbury (Ben Jonson L.C.C. School), Mr. W. L. Clague, Mr. Marshall Jackman (Sydney Road L.C.C. School), Mr. J. Litt (Monnow Road L.C.C. School), Dr. C. J. Thomas, Miss C. A. Agutter (Wilmot Street L.C.C. School), Mr. B. M. Allen, Mr. D. P. Andrews, Mrs. E. M. Burgwin, Mr. A. G. Chamings, Mr. T. Chesterton, Miss F. H. Durham, Miss A. C. Glover (Aristotle Road L.C.C. School), Miss M. Jones, Dr. C. W. Kimmins, Mrs. M. E. Laird (Middle Row L.C.C. School), Miss H. L. Pearse, Mr. E. M. Rich, Mr. T. A. Spalding, and Mr. F. Marsh (Secretary).

Lieut.-Col. the Right Hon. Sir William Carington, Chairman of the King's Coronation Fête to London Children at the Festival of Empire, Crystal Palace, was in attendance.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

The Crown Princess of Germany, attended by the Countess von Alvensleben and Earl Granville, last week visited the German Hospital, Dalston, where her Royal Highness was received by Baron Kuhlmann (First Secretary of the German Embassy) and Baroness Kuhlmann, with Baron Bruno von Schroder, Sir Hermann Weber, and other members of the Committee and medical staff. The Crown Princess inspected the children's and women's wards, and spoke to the patients.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess of Aberdeen have intimated their intention to be present at the opening of the Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute to be held at Belfast on July 24th to 29th. The Earl of Aberdeen, as Patron, will instal Lord Dunleath as President of the Congress, and will open the Health Exhibition.

Mrs. Arthur Burr last week opened the new balcony outside the Children's Victoria Ward of the Dover Hospital, which she has so generously donated to the hospital. The balcony, to which access is gained by French windows, faces south-east, and commands a view of the Castle and part of the Hospital gardens. It has a glass roof, and sliding glass shutters have been provided in case of inclement weather, and will provide the sick children with a means of inhaling health-giving ozone, and restoration to health. Upon the outside of the Ward wall a brass plate bearing the following inscription has been fixed:—"This balcony was presented to the Hospital for the children's benefit by Mrs. Arthur Burr. June, 1911."

Mrs. Brough Law, the popular Matron, and the medical staff, are naturally delighted with this gift to the children of Dover. Mr. Byres Leake, in moving a vote of thanks to Mrs. Burr, said that there was no work that appealed to them more than the needs of the children, for if we saved the children we saved the nation. He thought to hear the cry of a child was the most touching and the most difficult thing to bear.

The Council of the Charity Organisation Society has adopted a resolution urging that in view of the extremely complicated nature of the National Insurance Bill, and the immense importance of the interests involved in it, the measure should not be pressed forward until such ample time has been given to enquiry and discussion as cannot possibly be secured in the present session of Parliament.

At a Conference of representatives of Dispensaries in London and the Provinces, held recently, the feeling was unanimous that the National Insurance Bill, as it stood, would be most prejudicial to dispensaries, whether provident or free, and in many cases would practically destroy them. As in some towns more than a third of the population are members of provident dispensaries, a resolution was unanimously passed urging that they should be utilised for the administration of benefits under a national insurance scheme.

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