

whence a keen look-out was kept all day, the stewards to their posts, and the attendance staff to their tent for the care of lost children. I, with my two assistants, proceeded to headquarters, and the nurses to their special tents. A medical officer was in charge of all medical work, and a lady doctor was specially on duty at headquarters, and very busy she was kept all day, as many children collapsed from train sickness, giddiness, and general excitement.

As the trains came in no sight could have been more inspiring, the children all so beautifully clean and tidy, literally tumbling down from the terraces and into the various side shows they were to see. Every 10,000 division was distinguished by a colour—caps for boys, and muslin scarves round the hats of girls. Each divisional commander had a banner of his colour, and with him was the doctor for the division. Each train load of about 1,000 was in charge of a captain, and with him was a nurse, the children of whose schools as far as possible formed the contingent.

It was the duty of the nurse to remove any sick child to the Rest Tents, where they could receive skilled attention, and, if necessary, be forwarded by the St. John Ambulance staff to their destination. Each nurse was directed to keep in touch with her contingent of children, to fetch them in time for departure. This system worked very well, and very few children had to be left behind.

Everything in order, I went with members of the Committee to have a look at the children. Never shall I forget the lovely sight of their happy little faces on the "Joy Wheel," in the Maxim boats, and, most of all, on the various switch-back railways; the shouts of joyous laughter, the thrilling screams; and it was good to note that the girls were not a bit behind the boys in courage and quickness and *joie de vivre*.

The showmen entered tremendously into the fun, so fresh and delightful was the children's pleasure. As for the endurance of the teachers who had to keep pace with the eager steps of children, it was tested to the utmost and not found wanting, as not one teacher collapsed all day!

But to pass to the thrilling moment when the King and Queen arrived, and passed down to the band-stand in the central avenue. Mrs. Burgwin had in charge the two dear little damsels who presented with shy grace bouquets to the Queen and Princess Mary.

We at Headquarters were looking anxiously for the King and Queen, and in the grounds in front thousands and thousands of happy children were awaiting their arrival. It was indeed a memorable

moment when the cheers broke out and the Royal carriage drove up to the entrance. As the Queen passed our open doors she remarked: "What, some already collapsed?" But how much more intense must have been the feeling of the King and Queen when, from the platform, they looked out over the thousands of up-turned faces of London's children—faces so eager, so earnest and bright, and shining with gladness, happy children cheering with all their might, and they realised that they had been given power to inspire such joy!

Never before has such a sight been seen. Never before has such a huge concourse of children of the people been gathered together as the guests of King and Queen. Those watching the face of the King saw how deeply he was affected by the sight. And well he might be. The whole thing was amazingly significant. Such crowds, so well turned out, and in such happy order! It spoke volumes for the advance of education and the best results of education—order, self-control, fellowship, and individual happiness! As they gazed upon these wonderful children how proud must have been their Majesties to be their King and Queen!

Upon leaving the platform a visit was paid to our emergency hospital, and whilst the Queen spoke with Miss Layton, Assistant Superintendent, the King spoke to a little girl, and remarked to Dr. Gowdey he hoped there would be no serious illness, and that we were fortunate in having cool weather, as heat would have added to illness. Anyway, the little ones detained in the hospital found compensation in coming into such close touch with the Royal Family.

By and bye we climbed to the eyrie, in which so careful a watch was being kept by Mr. Blair and the chairmen of his committee sections, and a truly wonderful sight met the gaze. The children were departing, and the colours were beginning to stream away to the station, and looked beautiful in the distance, marking out the divisions very clearly. I then paid a visit to the Rest Tents on either side of the Terrace, and thanked the nurses for their admirable work. Our anxieties were nearly at an end. Several of the little people were sent home in charge of nurses, and four having been taken by St. John Ambulance to the Norwood Cottage Hospital, it only remained to take an inventory of the equipment, Miss Layton and Miss Packman remaining till all was carefully done.

As I travelled home alone, very tired, yet very proud to have taken part in this wonderfully successful day, I realised it to be one of

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