

Sister Edith Tucker has sent home from Salonika an account of the impressive funeral of the late Nurse Barnes, which appears in the Cardiff *Western Mail*. She writes:—

"The loss of Nurse Barnes was a frightful blow to us all; she was ill just a fortnight, and had typhoid in its very worst form. We had the Crown Prince's physician attending her, and also numerous other doctors. The Crown Prince gave orders that she was to be buried with full military honours—a thing which has never been done in Greece before for a woman, except of Royal blood. The *Yarmouth* was stationed here, so it was arranged for them to take part, too; so every honour was paid to Nurse. Such a funeral has never been seen in Salonika before.

"First of all came the guard of honour and officers and doctors from all the military hospitals; then the English sailors with the gun-carriage, and all the English officers in full uniform; the English Consul and his wife; and practically all the English residents and people from all hospitals in the town—Dutch, Italian, &c. I was standing speaking to the English Consul, when I heard a murmur of 'The King,' and, looking round, saw Their Majesties with Prince Andrew and Princess Alice. I went up to Their Majesties, and they both expressed their sympathy with us all. We entered the room, the Royal party standing round the coffin. The King asked for all my English sisters; and we entered, too, with an officer of high rank, who made a speech in Greek over the coffin (a custom out here), and then he placed a large wreath on the coffin. Afterwards the King gave orders that officers should come and carry the coffin to the front hall, where the first part of the service was to take place. I explained to His Majesty that they could draw the carriage better; and this was done. He also gave orders that the orderlies should walk in front, and carry the wreath, &c.; and so Nurse left her sick-room—the Royal party walking next, and then ourselves. A short service was held in the front hall—everyone standing; and the hall and corridor were crowded after the service, during which time I stood between the King and Prince Andrew. The King sent Prince Andrew for the English captain to call his men; and then, placing a hand on the carriage, he helped to guide it himself. The petty-officers then lifted the coffin, and carried it down the steps, and placed it on the gun-carriage. The Royal party stood on the steps; then, drawing to one side, they allowed us to enter a carriage; and we started for the cemetery, which was about three-quarters of a mile away. There the rest of the service was held, and the volleys fired.

"It was one of the coldest days we have had here, and everyone was frozen. Can you imagine anything kinder than Their Majesties coming? They are so nice and simple in every way. One quite forgets one is talking to Royalty. Everyone could not get over them coming; and they think it was a great honour to all English people out

here; and the Greeks all say that more honour could not have been paid to anyone of Royal blood."

The West Ham Board of Guardians are still demanding power to give members of the nursing staff one day's rest in seven, and at its last meeting the reply of Mr. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, refusing to sanction the request, was circulated. After some discussion it was decided to leave it to the Clerk to write to the Essex members, the leaders of the Opposition, and the members of the Labour Party.

The members of the Frome Branch of the Nurses' Social Union held their first annual meeting on January 18th at the Victoria Hospital and Nurses' Home, Frome. Miss Symonds, who kindly presided, gave an interesting account of the extension of the Union during the past year, and explained the privileges of its members, on whom depend its future work and development. The illuminated address which had been presented to Miss Joseph on her resignation of the post of County Organizer, was shown to the members and associates, who were pleased to have been allowed to share in the present. Miss Joseph's kind help and interest in starting the Frome Branch last year will be remembered by its first members as a small part of her many years' work for the county. A pleasant tea-party in the nurses' sitting-room followed the meeting, and the members and associates look forward to welcoming Miss Symonds to Frome again on March 11th, when she has kindly promised to give them a lecture.

Mr. D. F. Pennant, of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, speaking on the position of the nursing profession and the Insurance Act at Crewe, at a meeting of the Cheshire County Nursing Association, expressed the opinion that a standard charge of 10s. 6d. should be made for one of the Association's nurses in cases where the beneficiary was in receipt of maternity benefit. For the services of a thoroughly trained Queen's Nurse such a charge might be fair, but for a village nurse, paid a salary of from 15s. to £1 a week, the profit made on her work by the Association would be altogether indefensible. The quality of the nursing to be given to the sick insured and the remuneration of the nurses by lay committees is a question which requires very careful watching and consideration. Certified midwives must also take care that their work under the Act is not monopolised by

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