not the fault of Birley House if its scholars do not qualify as useful citizens.

For the girls, dolls provide an additional opportunity for many a useful lesson, as well as an endless delight, as may be gathered from the charming illustration of a doll-dressing competition.

In all their efforts for the good of the children the Medical Officer and Headmaster have the sympathetic co-operation of Nurse Barton, who evidently has the welfare of the scholars very closely at heart, and through her trained skill and knowledge is able to give invaluable help, and to be a real friend to the children, many of whom do not know the meaning of the word "home."

All honour to the London County Council and those of its officers who, through humane and intelligent methods of education, are doing so much to develop the slum child, and, from most unpromising material, to rear citizens healthy in mind and body.

By the kindness of the editor of the *Daily Mirror*, the interesting illustrations of this article are produced from its copyright photographs.

MARGARET BREAY.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES,

SAN FRANCISCO, 1915.

California makes fiesta And invites the world to sup, While the kiss of her abundance Drops a pearl in every cup. Man has cut the earth asunder For the highway of the world— There the seas clasp hands in wonder, There "Old Glory" is unfurled.

The illustrated advance programmes being issued by the United States Government of the Universal Exposition to be held at San Francisco, to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal, just make one's mouth water with longing to be there. Even from paper the imagination sums up a dream of beauty. Those who travel westward through the scenic wonders of the wonderful American continent will find at the Golden Gate of the Pacific an Exposition—the first to be held on the shores of an ocean—without question the most varied and complete mankind has ever seen.

The Opportunity of a Lifetime ! Alas ! of so little financial value is the arduous work of nursing in Europe, that only a very limited number of our nurses will be able to find the \pounds 80, the least sum which a visit to San Francisco will cost; for real pleasure \pounds 100 will not be too much. Yet what an education such a trip would be.

Miss Dock is set upon our having "our own train" of tourist sleeping cars-which are of wicker, and have facilities for light cooking, "quite delightful for a party of friends and much less costly than ordinary travel." Imagine the charm of travel under the circumstances. According to a suggested route, it would be just a nine days' picnic. This sounds very fascinating. There are eleven routes by which the traveller can cross the American continent—some, of course, much more expensive than others-and you can race from London to San Francisco in ten days. But this would not be a wise or instructive plan. Once we start we want to see all of the wonders of America we possibly can for our money. The route put before the International Council of Nurses would include going from England to Montreal by steamer, sailing up the glorious St. Lawrence River, and then on to Niagara Falls by Pullman car; while here the circular tour of about twenty miles via the Great Gorge Route would be followed, which gives one a most impressive view of both the Canadian and American Falls. Then away through Canada and Michigan to Chicago, visiting all its principal sights, and then through the great grainfields of Nebraska, passing Omaha and Lincoln to lovely Colorado Springs, situated on a plateau thousands of feet above the sea, with Pike's Peak, 14,500 feet, and other lofty mountains in the distance. From here a visit would be paid to Manitou and the Garden of the Gods. From Colorado via Denver to Salt Lake City. The scenery along this route is unequalled in America, passing the great Royal Gorge, through the Canyon of the Grande River, Tennessee Pass, Continental Divide, and the celebrated Castle Gate. From Salt Lake City, of Mormon fame, a visit would be made to Saltair Beach on the great Salt Lake. On via Ogden one crosses the marvellous "Inland Sea of Utah," running for several hours with the water almost beneath the cars, and lapping either side of the railway tracks. In the distance superb ranges of mountains, snowclad, sunset flushed, in an exquisite atmosphere where the colours are eternally changing. Then across the valleys of Utah and Nevada, until you arrive at the top of the Sierras, and for the next six hours drop gently down from the pines and snow through the flower-perfumed air of the Sacramento Valley, and arrive at this city of San Francisco, so marvellously rebuilt from its ashes, which is, in fact, five cities grouped around a magnificent island-dotted bay, upon



