

hard at work. But the treat of the day comes at four o'clock, when, laden with boxes of cake and jugs of tea, the "Camp" makes its way to the sea wall or the woods for its daily picnic.

Perhaps the prevailing note is good fellowship. As one says, who only arrived when Camp was half finished, "I have been very much struck with the free and easy comradeship there is between all."

Within a few hours of arrival all were busy learning one another's names, and now all are friends, though a week ago few had met before.

There is a deeper side to camp life. The day begins with prayer or a Bible reading, in which such subjects have been taken as "Discipleship." On some mornings this first gathering is quite short, afterwards members adjourn to the woods or cliffs for Bible Circle, in which four or five together discuss the subject of "The Work of the Holy Spirit." All meetings stop at midday, to leave time for rest and recreation, and then in the still evening hour there is another gathering, when short addresses are given. "The King of Kings and His Claims" and "Meditation" are amongst the subjects which have been taken, while the subject of "Work in the Mission Field" has never been far from the thoughts of Campers. How could it be? For in their midst have been missionary nurses from India, China, West Africa, Palestine, South America, each with a thrilling tale to tell of her work, of conditions of life abroad, and of the tremendous need for doctors and nurses in these distant lands.

The thought of the claims of God upon the life of each individual has been brought home time after time, and in the quiet of the glories of nature each has sought to gain that communion with Him by which alone this claim can be met.

"It has been the best time of my life!" This from one who registered for a week, but has stayed on for the fortnight.

"It is the 'scrummiest' holiday I have ever had."

Those interested in the Camp can get a full account of it in *Nurses Far and Near* for July, 1914 (price 3d.), obtainable from Miss H. Y. Richardson, 52, Lower Sloane Street, London, S.W.

SCARLET FEVER IN LONDON.

The number of scarlet fever patients in London continues to show a large increase, and it was reported that the number of such patients remaining in the Metropolitan Asylums Board's hospitals on the 20th ult. was 3,030, as compared with 2,957 a fortnight previously. In view of the necessity of providing accommodation for the increasing number of scarlet fever patients, the Hospitals' Committee of the Board have approved of the temporary suspension of admissions of cases of measles and of whooping-cough. This is sad for the suffering children of the metropolis.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

We have received the following report from the Hon. Secretary of the London Branch of the above Society:—

"By kind permission of the Committee of the Midwives Institute a meeting of the London Branch which was very well attended, was held there on Friday, June 19th, to discuss the Bill for the State Registration of Nurses now before Parliament. There was an excellent discussion, in the course of which the opinion was expressed that there seemed little need to discuss the question of the principle of Registration, which might almost be called a foregone conclusion, and whether nurses were in favour of it or not, it was pretty sure to come sooner or later. The provisions of the Bill were criticised and it was felt that amendments could be drafted which would make the Bill more acceptable in some quarters, and that this would be necessary when the Bill had passed its second reading. Members present at the meeting felt that the National Union of Trained Nurses would be in a favourable position to draft such amendments, and on its being pointed out that as the Union is a constitutional society, and had hitherto been inclined to hold aloof from the question of Registration, no action of the kind could be carried out without the consent of a majority of the branches, it was decided to ask the Executive of the Central Council from the London Branch if it would be willing to ascertain the opinion of the Branches as to the advisability of the formation of a committee to consider possible amendments to the Bill in the event of its passing the second reading. One of the amendments discussed was the inclusion of the National Union of Trained Nurses among those bodies to be represented on the Provisional Council."

It was inevitable that as soon as the National Union of Trained Nurses got seriously to work, it would be faced with the vital problem of nursing organization by the State, which has been engaging the conscientious consideration of progressive nurses' groups all over the world for a quarter of a century past. No form of nursing can be secure or permanently effective unless it is built up on a basis of legal status. We felt sure the Union would have to realize this fact, and we are glad to note that in spite of "no party" (whatever that may mean) having been proclaimed at several inaugural meetings of branches, that the Union finds that "Registration might almost be called a foregone conclusion."

At the same time if the policy of the Central Office is to be up-to-date, before attempting to amend the Nurses' Registration Bill, we recommend that it avails itself of the expert knowledge of those who have been associated together to effect the organization of nursing by the State, and who have studied this important question in all its bearings for years, in co-operation with the leaders of nursing thought throughout the world, sympathetic members of the medical profession,

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