

"I don't care much myself," said Mr. W.-S., "about being crowned on an empty—without having had something to eat, if it's only an egg."

"If they're going to crown the gov'nor in a dinner jacket and white tie," Clarence muttered, "we shall never hear the last of it, that's all."

The Coronation procession now started with great pomp and ceremony. By this time the Wibberly-Stimpsons were convinced that it was the real thing and not a pageant rehearsal.

"You needn't have said that about doing our best to give satisfaction, Sidney," complained his wife, "for all the world as though we were a butler and housekeeper applying for a situation."

At the banquet which followed poor King Sidney hoped that crowns would not be *de rigueur*. "They are such uncomfortable things to eat in."

"All you've got to do, gov'nor," said Clarence, "is to keep yours from splashing into the soup. A bit of elastic round your chin would do it all right."

Well, everyone knows it takes a clever man to be a fool, and we must not be too superior to enjoy the fooling of a clever man.

H. H.

AN EXAMPLE TO BRITAIN.

The Women's Franchise Act, by which all adult women in Norway are entitled to the Parliamentary vote, came into force on October 11th, and 170,000 new women electors voted on that day. In 1907 the Act which removed the sex disqualification in Norway added some 300,000 women to the electorate, of those who possessed a certain income of their own, or were married to husbands paying taxes on the same amount. The extension of this right to all women is the best evidence of the good use made of the vote by those enfranchised in the first instance.

COMING EVENTS.

November 18th.—Central Midwives' Board, Monthly Meeting, Caxton House, S.W. 3.30 p.m.

November 20th.—Conference on Massage, Women's University Union, Lime Grove, Oxford Road, Manchester. Opening Address, afternoon and evening, Miss Lucy Robinson, Chairman of Council I.S.T.M. 2.30-5 p.m., 6.30-9 p.m.

November 23rd.—Irish Nurses' Association. Lecture on "Bone Diseases," by Mr. MacAuley, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. 7.30 p.m.

November 23rd.—Royal Sanitary Institute. Sessional Meeting. Discussion on "The National and Social Aspect of the Lower Birth Rate." Opened by Dr. Louis Parkes, M.D., D.P.H. 4.15 p.m.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Life is a work—begin it.
Life is a battle—win it.
Life is a pure heart—shield it.
Life is a sceptre—wield it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

MISS CAVELL AND THE GERMANS— THE GIST OF THE WHOLE MATTER.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I have been following the correspondence in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, re Miss Cavell, with interest. Strange to say that while I was in France, from all I saw and heard, I had come to the same conclusion as Mr. Yearsley has expressed, viz., that Germans should be nursed by orderlies and not by women nurses. Why not? Women have not held the same position in Germany they held in civilised countries before the war. Since the war the German army has treated women with open savagery. We all know how they behaved in Belgium; they have done the same with the women of the invaded part of France. The French have chosen silence instead of publicity, until the day of reckoning comes. The gist of the punishment they meted out to Miss Cavell was only a form of snapping their fingers at the British nation, and a threat as to what fate awaited their women should they invade England. A Tommy wrote to me the other day, "Poor Nurse Cavell! But this is what they would do, and worse still, if they crossed the Channel, to our women and children."

It would indeed be narrow-minded to condemn every German or judge all as ungrateful for the kindness they have received from English nurses, but who can deny many cases of coarseness, of insolence and arrogance towards English nurses. Why expose themselves to it?

Once owing to an overflow they sent me some of those uncivilised tribes such as Algerians and Sengalese during the night. Next morning one of the French wounded officers, much concerned, came to me and said, "Madame, I need hardly tell you, for you have lived in the East, to be careful with those Mohammedan men; they would not understand or respect ladies nursing them; they would either take you for a servant, or worse still." "Monsieur," I answered, "be reassured. When I went into their room this morning every one of them rose and bent down and kissed my hand reverently." They had understood what the Germans have not.

Woodberry, Yours faithfully,
Hindhead. E. R. WORTABET.

AN INDEFENSIBLE SYSTEM.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I am glad to notice in the JOURNAL that one of your correspondents is protesting against the use, by sundry untrained workers, of the nurse's uniform and Army Sister's cap. I know that many nurses feel out

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