

By the kind invitation of the Lord Mayor a meeting on behalf of the Edith Cavell Homes of Rest for Nurses was held at the Mansion House, Bristol, on May 23rd, when M. Gaston de Leval, formerly a member of the American Legation in Brussels, who did all that was possible to save the life of Edith Cavell, was the principal speaker. The programme followed was similar to that at the Æolian Hall last October, and Miss Edith Evans sang with much feeling Rossetti's "Silent Noon," set to Vaughan Williams' music, and Gounod's Ave Maria. Lt.-Col. Sir Richard Temple, C.B., C.I.E., Chairman of the Central Committee, Miss S. A. Swift, and the Bishop of Bristol also spoke.

At a similar meeting held in the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare, on the previous day, the speakers, instead of the Bishop, were the Rev. Prebendary Norton Thompson and Mr. Henry Ward, J.P. An appeal was made for the funds of the Homes in each instance.

The Lord Mayor of Norwich presided at the Guildhall at the Annual Meeting of the Norwich District Nursing Association.

Miss Cowper Johnson (hon. secretary) read the committee's report, which stated that the number of cases nursed during the year was 952, and the number of nursing visits paid 21,015. The chief event of the year was the purchase of the Nurses' Home, with an adjoining property, as an appropriate memorial to Edith Cavell. The appeal was for £2,500, towards which £1,748 18s. had been received. It was hoped that the full sum would be forthcoming, so that the Home might be well equipped and improved by some necessary alterations. Thanks were due to their vice-president, Mrs. Colman, the chairman, and other members of the committee for their untiring efforts in carrying through the scheme. The current expenses of the year had inevitably increased, owing to the higher cost of living, and the balance-sheet closed with a deficit of £140. It was, however, encouraging to note that the new subscriptions had increased by £31 10s., and 29 new subscribers had been added to the list. Contributions from the patients amounted to £172 14s. 11d.

The Lord Mayor, in moving the adoption of the report, referred to the Edith Cavell Memorial Home, and said he hoped that on October 12th, which was the anniversary of the martyrdom of Nurse Cavell, the committee would be in a position to open the Home, and he took that opportunity of appealing to any who had not yet subscribed to the fund to come

to their assistance, so that the appeal might be closed on or before October 12th.

Mrs. James Stuart paid a felicitous tribute to the work of the association. She said that in the war they had seen so much overlapping of effort and the misuse of available services that they turned with tremendous satisfaction to the fact that this association sent its nurses to the places where they were directly needed. The nurses were fully trained. They each underwent three years' hospital training, and on that was super-imposed six months' district work. The result was that they got not a finished article, for no nurse would admit she was finished, but at any rate a very capable trained woman. They could plead for the association from a humane, religious, and charitable point of view, but even better they could plead for it from a downright common-sense and economic standpoint. In the welter of the war, the destruction and mutilation of life had been frightful. And then there was that tragic side—the children. Bearing in mind those facts it was of paramount importance that they should redouble their efforts to save and restore, or where nothing else could be done, even to patch up the lives which were with us. After speaking of the extraordinary tact shown by the nurses, Mrs. Stuart went on to say that there was nothing showy or superficial about the association's work; every penny sent was turned to the best possible account. In conclusion, Mrs. Stuart made an urgent appeal for funds to maintain the work of the organisation, and to liquidate the present deficit.

On Saturday last the girls of the Secondary School gave a concert, the entire proceeds of which will be given to the Nurse Cavell Memorial Fund.

## BOOK OF THE WEEK.

### "ANNE'S HOUSE OF DREAMS."\*

This is the third book of a series telling of the doings of Anne, and those who were charmed with "Anne of the Green Gables" will be delighted to meet her once more in her house of dreams.

The story opens at the period of the last few weeks of Anne's maiden life prior to her marriage with Gilbert Blythe. It has the piquante flavour which so often goes with American tales—the humour preventing the pretty sentiment from at any time becoming sickly.

At Avonlea the telephone system had just been introduced.

\*By L. M. Montgomery. (London: Constable).

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