

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE NURSING RECORD
EDITED BY MRS BEDFORD FENWICK

No. 1,608.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1919.

Vol. LXII

EDITORIAL.

AT PEACE.

The deep sympathy of the trained nurses of the Empire goes out to the King and Queen in their bereavement by the death of their youngest son. Their Majesties have shown such real sympathy with the sorrow which has befallen so many of their subjects during the last four years, that the nation will share their grief in no ordinary degree, and we may hope that the affection of their people will be some consolation to them in their grief.

None are better able to realise the tragedy which has preceded the early death of Prince John than trained nurses, who understand so well the shadow over the life of a child afflicted with the terrible disease of epilepsy, when attacks occur with increasing severity, and mental degeneration is the inevitable result of the cerebral stress.

A mother's heart is wrung with distress at the suffering of her child, and the knowledge that a cure cannot be hoped for, but rather that attacks, progressively severe, will occur until merciful death brings relief and peace, is a source of ever-present anxiety.

The Queen, who has been indefatigable in the discharge of the duties of her exalted position, must often have been sad at heart as she thought of her youngest born, whose life was spent quietly at Frogmore or Wolverton, near Sandringham. When the first poignancy of the blow is past, the knowledge that the child they loved is at rest, after a suffering life, full of tragic possibilities, will bring consolation to his parents in their sorrow. Death came to the Prince in kindly fashion at the last, and he closed his eyes in sleep to open them in the Paradise of God.

OF URGENT NATIONAL IMPORTANCE.

The Conference of Visiting Committees of the Asylums of England and Wales, convened to meet in the Guildhall, E.C., on February 5th, will be invited to express the opinion that "the Lunacy Acts, and the Mental Deficiency Act, are effete, and that a drastic amendment of them is of urgent national importance."

A JUST PEACE.

The whole world longs for peace, but peace at any price would be scarcely less a disaster than war, and the French President, M. Poincaré, struck the right note when he claimed, in his inaugural speech to the Peace Conference, which opened at Versailles on Saturday, that the Peace to be established must be a Peace of Justice.

President Poincaré further claimed for the assembled delegates, "At the moment when this cycle of horror is ending, all the Powers whose delegates are assembled here may acquit themselves of any share in the crime which has resulted in so unprecedented a disaster. What gives you authority to establish a Peace of Justice is the fact that none of the Peoples of whom you are the delegates has had any part in injustice. Humanity can place confidence in you because you are not amongst those who have outraged the rights of humanity."

The French President laid emphasis on the points that the war was a crusade of humanity for right, that the Peace Conference seeks justice, and justice has no favourites, but it is not inert, it does not submit to injustice, and demands the punishment of the guilty. He spoke of the establishment of a general League of Nations, which will, above all things, seek to gain respect for the peace to be established, and to prevent, as far as possible, the renewal of wars.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)