

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The Prime Minister announced in the House of Commons that with the assistance of the House they hoped to prorogue Parliament before Christmas and avoid adjournment, and in order to save time which has already been expended, it is contemplated inviting the House to alter the Standing Orders in order to take up measures in the next Session at the stage to which they have been carried in the present Session. Good!—but let us hope our Registration Bills will be safely landed on to the Statute Book as a Christmas box for 1919 to the Nurses of the United Kingdom.

Dr. Addison, in a circular to local authorities, expresses the hope that they will obtain the views of women on the proposed lay-out of houses, and on house plans, including internal fittings, lighting, and heating, and that women's advisory committees should be formed in each urban district amongst women considered suitable to serve on these committees; district nurses and midwives are specially mentioned.

Viscountess Astor, M.P., has written to the various Nurses' Organisations, stating that she is anxious to be thoroughly in touch with their opinions and wishes with regard to Parliamentary matters, and asking for reports and publications. We hope nursing experts will give our "one and only" all the information at their disposal, as the nursing question is not only of national importance but hitherto has been little understood by the laity. Trained nurses have at last found able champions in the Government, and Lady Astor is just in time to give her vote in support of the Nurses' Registration Bills as they pass their final stages in the Commons.

It was rumoured in the House that Lady Astor would make her maiden speech in support of the enfranchisement of Indian women on the India Bill. This she did not do, but when the question was under discussion and the Secretary of State for India advocated leaving it to the decision of the legislative councils in India, Lady Astor interposed with the telling observation: "But it is to be decided by Indian men." "That is quite true," replied Mr. Montague, "but the Hon. Member will remember that the question of woman franchise in this country was decided by men."

"Only after enormous pressure by the ladies," said Lady Astor; and later she voted against the Government in support of the principle that no discrimination should be made on account of sex. A good beginning.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

At the present time the shops are filled with a multitude of buyers, and far and near, men, women and children are seeking for suitable gifts with which to commemorate the Christmas season. We hope that, in making their selection, they will make a point of purchasing, wherever possible, from the firms which advertise in *THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*. These offer such a wide range of choice that there are few things which cannot be purchased from them.

CHRISTMAS BAZAARS.

MESSRS. E. & R. GARROULD.

To readers of this journal, this season would not be quite complete without a visit to the Christmas bazaar of Messrs. E. & R. Garrould, 150-162, Edgware Road. For many years they have been accustomed to find there just the things they need, not only for private gifts, but also for their wards, for the decking of Christmas trees and other things of supreme importance to their juvenile friends. This year the bazaar is designed on the lines of pre-war glories. Gramophones make merry music, a mechanical railway is a constant joy, a doll's folding cot, daintily trimmed with pink muslin and lace, at the very moderate price of 15s. 11d. or 25s. 11d., according to size. Christmas stockings, boxes of plasticine, and playwax, wheelbarrows, scales, paints, dolls to delight the heart of any child; everything to suit the taste of everybody is in profusion and at most reasonable prices.

For gifts to nurse friends, watches with second hand, and hot-water bottles are always welcome Christmas offerings. Prices can be sent on enquiry to those not able to pay a personal visit to the bazaar.

MESSRS. G. COZENS & Co.

The grand bazaar of Messrs. G. Cozens & Co., Ltd., 32-50, Edgware Road (Marble Arch) is very attractive, and many useful and dainty Christmas gifts are to be found there. Dolls in great variety, fur toys—beloved of children—including teddy-bears, white rabbits, cats and dogs, and Aberdeen terriers. For the older folk there are many things which would be most acceptable presents. Net or ninon fronts, fichus, and collars with fillet insertion, underskirts, and many other dainty gifts at most moderate prices.

BOOTS' GIFT DEPARTMENT.

Many desirable articles for gifts, are to be found at the various establishments of Messrs. Boots, the chief London branches being at 182, Regent Street, W.1, and 112-118, Edgware Road, W.2. At the Regent Street branch there is moreover, a charming café where tired shoppers can obtain refreshments at extremely moderate prices. Nurses should note that Ingram's noted "Eclipse" hot-water bottles can be obtained at Messrs. Boots' principal branches.

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