

### MY IMPRESSION OF THEIR MAJESTIES' GARDEN PARTY FOR WAR WORKERS.

It would be difficult to believe from the front view of Buckingham Palace that such extensive grounds were on the other side, and when we were there London seemed so far away. What sights awaited all who received the command to attend; uniforms of every possible description were to be seen. Could our beloved Queen have spoken to every one of her guests I am sure she would have done so, and if we crowded nearer than we should, she would be the first to forgive us, knowing that it was due to our great affection and admiration for her. I stood quite close to *our* Princess, who looked, as always, the great and gracious lady she is. Princess Mary was there in the uniform of a V.A.D. The whole thing was so wonderfully organised, and we thoroughly enjoyed it from the moment we entered the Palace to the time when we left, with never-to-be-forgotten memories of a delightful afternoon, happy in the consciousness that bloodshed and strife were not going on across the Channel. To judge from their medals, most of the servants at the Palace had "rendered conspicuous service" to their country.

Everyone on entering was handed a card with the letter on it of the tent where to go for tea—and what a tea! The tables, decorated with masses of Malmaison carnations, were lovely. The King's tent was beautiful with rambler roses and gold plate and a great group of Malmaison carnations at the entrance. Under the canopy that was used at the Delhi Durbar the Queen received her guests. May Their Majesties now enjoy the rest of their Scottish home, and long may they reign!

JESSIE HOLMES.

### BABIES OF THE EMPIRE SOCIETY.

We hear that two readers of the JOURNAL have misunderstood part of the very condensed report of Miss Patrick's lecture, which appeared in our last Supplement. Referring to her statement that in New Zealand there was State Registration of Nurses; State Registration of Midwives; Government Maternity Hospitals; Supervision of Hostels for Children, and Registration of Births, we stated that "All these conditions have not yet been established in the Mother Country." Obviously the emphasis should fall on the first word in the sentence, so giving the sense that not all of those different conditions have been attained in England. Naturally the lecturer and those present knew, for instance, that we have Compulsory Registration of Births in England, but State Registration of Nurses has not yet been established here, although the nurses in New Zealand secured this reform as far back as 1901.

Nurses interested in the important field of Infant Welfare, which holds such promise of expansion and opportunity, should write to the Secretary, Babies of the Empire Society, 29, Trebovir Road, S.W. 7, for particulars of the course of study at Dr. Truby King's Centre.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

*Whilst welcoming communications from its Members the Corporation does not hold itself responsible for individual expressions of opinion.*

#### ETHICAL STANDARDS IN NURSING POLITICS.

*To the Secretary of the R.B.N.A.*

DEAR MADAM,—We are indebted to you for your article on "Ethics" in the JOURNAL of 12th inst. It clearly shows how many of the present Matrons are quite alive to what they look upon as the dangers that might follow the education of their nursing staff!

I am sure many nurses would be interested to know how many of those who refused admittance to the R.B.N.A. speakers have on previous occasions made arrangements for speakers from the College of Nursing, Ltd.

This kind of coercion of hospital nurses may appear to succeed for a short time, but the ultimate result of a one-sided education will be that nurses will be forced to regard their employers with distrust. Then discord and friction will arise. Many who feel that they have been duped will adopt practical methods of retaliation, and the blame will be with those who have stunted the education of the profession. I feel sure many of the Scottish nurses would like to have the advantage of hearing speakers from the R.B.N.A. One is apt to lose sight of the fact that the R.B.N.A. is not only an English, but a British Association, and that it has many sympathisers on this side of the Border, although its headquarters are in London. Nurses must realise that the time is coming when *they* must make or mar their own profession. Which is it to be? Will they make it a self-respecting, self-supporting profession, governed by the profession, or will they be content that a limited company of laymen and employers shall control the activities of the nursing profession? If so, it cannot even claim to be a profession. The decision must not be left to Government? The British nurses' opportunity for emancipation and achievement must not be lost! Let each of us put our shoulder to the wheel to secure the passage of a just Bill.—Yours truly,

C. H. MCARA.

West Lettock, by Advie-on-Spey,

### OBITUARY.

It is with very deep regret that we have to report the death of Mrs. Cecil Lyster. Her name was the sixth to be placed on the Register of the Corporation, so that she is amongst its earliest members. Previous to her marriage with Dr. Lyster she was Miss Edith Thompson, and held the position of Matron of Bolingbroke Hospital. Mrs. Lyster took a very active interest in the work of the Corporation for many years.

ISABEL MACDONALD,

*Secretary to the Corporation.*

10, Orchard Street, London, W.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)