

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

Parliament is to be opened in State on February 10th, the Address in reply to the King's Speech will be moved in the House of Lords by the Marquess of Dufferin, who was such a kind friend to the nurses when legislation injurious to their interests was promoted in the Upper House last session.

Lady Astor, M.P. is having a busy time outside Parliament. Speaking at Plymouth last week, she enumerated the good work accomplished by the Coalition Government, and amongst the Acts passed were the Nurses' Registration Act. We hope nurses are not going to forget that this Government has given us suffrage, registration, and various other degrees of emancipation, whilst under Party Government we were bond slaves for generations—one Party as bad as the other.

### MASS MEETING ON THE NEED FOR WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT.

The National Council of Women and the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship are arranging a Mass Meeting at Queen's Hall on Thursday, February 12th, at 8 p.m. in support of the need for women as Members of Parliament.

Mr. Lloyd George will speak, public engagements permitting him to do so, also Viscountess Astor, M.P. A further strong list of names is being arranged, particulars of which will be shortly announced.

Tickets ranging from £1 1s. to 1s. are for sale at the office of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W., and also at the offices of the National Council of Women, Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

## COMING EVENTS.

*February 7th.*—Irish Matrons' Special Meeting To discuss the Training of Nurses. 7.15 p.m.

*February 12th.*—National Council of Women: Mass Meeting on "The Need for Women in Parliament," Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W. 8 p.m.

*February 13th.*—Society for State Registration of Nurses: Meeting Executive Committee, 431, Oxford Street, W. 4 p.m.

*February 14th.*—Professional Union of Trained Nurses. A Mass Meeting will be held at the Scottish Nurses' Club, 205, Bath Street, Glasgow. 2.30 p.m.

*February 19th.*—Central Midwives Board: Monthly Meeting.

## A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"We are more than physico-chemical phenomena. There is a higher and deeper life, of which our bodies are the organs; and there are many old persons who demonstrate that Youth is a State of the Soul."

## 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.*

### KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

#### DOWN WITH DOLES.

We have been inundated with letters of protest during the past week from all sorts and conditions of nurses on what is now known as the "D.T. Shilling Doles for Nurses." To quote:—

*A London Hospital Matron:* "Oh, the *Daily Telegraph*; it is enough to give all nurses D.T.'s!!"

*Half-a-dozen Nurses:* "I have counter-ordered my *Daily Telegraph*." (Most of them notify that they have ordered the *Morning Post* instead. This is a sound policy. Get friends to do likewise. —Ed.)

*Miss A. E. Hulme:* "I take in the *Morning Post*, and I have written to the Editor to thank him for giving us a hearing in his liberal-minded paper. He supports the National Party, which is out for purity in politics and seems able to grasp that nurses have ideals and are ready to fight for them." (The letter of protest, signed by representatives of five of the organised societies of nurses, known as the Party whose slogan is Self-government, Self-support, and Self-respect, as against "College, Charity, and Chains," was boycotted by the entire daily Press excepting the *Morning Post*. This shows how the public are misled by the 'free Press' in this land of liberty.—Ed.)

*Woman Journalist:* "I am about fed up with this business. My article on 'The Economic Position of Nurses,' turned down by one paper after another. One truthful ruffian told me baldly, 'Dog don't eat dog. The D.T. has got a good scoop. It isn't etiquette in Fleet Street to down it. Our turn next. Wish someone would run a shilling dole for me. I feel like a visit to the Carlton instead of the A.B.C., don't you? Well we shall never get there on the reform ticket. You run away and find out which of the widowed duchesses is going to buy herself a soldier boy or if it is true the Americans won't play the game till "Prinnie" fixes it up with "Poppa." That's the stuff to sell our paper, and that's what newspapers are for.'"

#### "LOUSY" SOLDIERS.

*Sister Q.A.I.M.N.S.:* "What is the use of advising us to appeal to the Army Council? All our complaints must filter through the Nursing Board, and as the Matrons are all 'College' and presumably approve of this nauseating appeal in the *Daily Telegraph*, begging from our patients, who is going to bell the cat? To be quite frank, no one in this hospital is taking any risks. Apparently we shall grumble, but just allow an actress to describe our heroic sick and wounded, *many of whom died for us*, as 'lousy' in a public newspaper, without a protest."

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