

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

When we went to press with our last issue election results were still coming in, and Mr. Baldwin had not been invited by the King to form a Government. Now he has assumed office as head of the strongest Government of modern times, and with a majority sufficiently large to promise a tenure of office long enough to introduce and give effect reforms long overdue. One, moreover, composed of politicians who are for the most part diplomatists by training, with a knowledge of imperial and international affairs.

Amongst the appointments the one of most interest to nurses is that of the Minister of Health, as he has certain powers in connection with the Nurses Registration Act, and in Mr. Neville Chamberlain we have a Minister who, during his brief tenure of office of that position in Mr. Baldwin's former Cabinet, showed that he had a deep interest in the problems which concern that Department.

In Sir Kingsley Wood, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry, we have one intimately conversant with the vicissitudes of Major Barnett's Nurses' Registration Bill both in the House of Commons and in Standing Committee, and later, with the Government Bills which received the Royal Assent in December, 1919.

The appointment of the Duchess of Atholl as Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education—the first Conservative woman Minister—is also of interest to nurses, since that Board deals in part with nursing matters and appoints two members of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Her Grace, as is well known, as the daughter of Sir James Ramsay, comes of a family with an extraordinarily brilliant record as educationists. Nursing Education is a branch which requires a great amount of study, and, indeed, a life time is not too much to devote to it. We hope the Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education will find time to sympathetically acquaint herself with its main problems, and more especially with those with which Parliament is concerned. Our portrait is from a *Daily Graphic* picture taken in the Duchess' room at the Board of Education on her first day of office.

### To Save Our Works of Art.

It is deplorable that so many lovely works of art are going out of this country, not alone those masterpieces which only millionaires can buy, but all sorts of charming *objets d'art*, which are permitted to go into the United States of America, and elsewhere, free of duty.

The Editor, who has, for many years, been a collector of moderately-priced works of art, thinks that large numbers of women who are devoted to the home would be interested in forming a society, so that British women (and men also) might each acquire some specimens.

The Editor once belonged to a Collectors' Society, but, alas! the men were so intensely jealous of the possessions of their fellow-collectors that it came to an untimely end.

But past experience has convinced her that there is room for a society—to be called, say, "The Acquisitors' Society"—of which every member could acquire and save, maybe, only one or two items from transportation to other countries. She would like to have a meeting with some of those who feel with her to discuss the formation of such a society.

The Sub-Editor has a collection of English blue pottery and some old family furniture, for which, rather than lose, she has taken a charming country cottage, to keep a roof over their heads.

The Editor's collection includes porcelain, pottery, antique furniture, antique needlework, and many other things which are a constant source of pleasure, and if the "acquisitors" only manage to secure a few specimens, it will be a great thing. Large numbers of beautiful articles costing but a few shillings can still be acquired which would give immense pleasure to their possessors. For instance, many private nurses now furnish rooms in which they live between their cases, and would like to surround themselves with furniture and other possessions which have an artistic as well as a utilitarian merit. The search for these would be a delightful recreation between cases, and the cost of furnishing their rooms with satisfying possessions which

are a pleasure to live with, need be no more than that entailed by the purchase of modern furniture.

The Editor, who feels very much that so many things of merit and value (as well as fakes) acquired in this country go overseas, would be glad to advise on the subject, and would like to hear, in writing, from any one who feels she would like to join such a society as that above suggested. Each member might pay, perhaps, rs. a year. If this succeeded, perhaps a Sale might be organised annually. In any case, the Editor could put members in the way of acquiring various articles of merit. The door of her new little house has a beautiful knocker representing Minerva; and if only those desiring to purchase have also the knowledge of what to buy, there is pleasure in store for them in the acquisition of furniture, china, pottery, glass, pewter, brass, and many other desirable "bits."



THE DUCHESS OF ATHOLL,  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education.

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