

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The Executive Committee of the Women's Section, British Empire Exhibition, has done wonders in securing hospitality for overseas visitors. All through June delightful parties have been given in their honour, and on July 17th T.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of York give an evening party at St. James's Palace, which is eagerly anticipated.

The Empire Food Cooking Demonstrations held in the Palace of Industry at Wembley, four times daily, are proving an immense success. Empire Menus from the various Dominions are given free on request, also receipts of the less known Dominion foods.

With regard to the suggestion made by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick that special sick cookery might be usefully demonstrated, arrangements have been made to have special trays of hospital foods cooked and placed on view. Everyone should visit the Exhibition and come into touch with wonders from overseas.

The next meeting of the International Council of Women is to be held in Austria in 1930. The Head Office of the Council is to be set up in London; an office is also to be established at Geneva, so as to keep in closer touch with the League of Nations, and the International Labour Union.

The "At Home" given by Mrs. Willoughby Hodgson, President of the newly-formed Collectors' Society, to members and others, at 35B Queen's Gate, S.W., on June 23rd, was a delightful function. After the daintiest of teas, Mrs. Hodgson opened the storehouse of her treasures, and shared their beauty with the "Collectors," in a charming informal speech, giving a vast amount of information as to china, silver, old lace and embroideries of which she showed beautiful specimens.

Before leaving, the members of the Society adopted the following objects:—(1) To encourage an interest in, and a knowledge of, antique arts and crafts. (2) To encourage the collection of moderately-priced antiques. (3) To compile a small reference library of works on art. (4) To acquire marked pieces of porcelain for the purpose of study. (5) To hold an Annual Exhibition for exchange and mart. (6) For social intercourse amongst collectors.

Lovers of Antiques should not fail to visit Anne Austen, Ltd., 48, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. They are sure to find something to please them.

Princess Juliana of Holland is going to study law at Leyden University. As this Princess is heir to the Throne of the Netherlands, nothing could be more appropriate.

### THE FIVE SISTERS WINDOW, YORK MINSTER.

The occasion of the unveiling of the restored Five Sisters Window in the Transept of York Minster on June 24th as a Women's Memorial to Women of the Empire who made the supreme sacrifice by giving their lives in the service of their country during the Great War, proved a most impressive and uplifting ceremony. Before a vast congregation representing several thousands, of relatives, subscribers, official representatives, and groups from all the great Services for women called forth for duty in the War, the Duchess of York performed the ceremony of

again exposing to the eyes of the world the magnificent thirteenth century glass window so exquisitely fashioned, and seen again in all its pristine beauty after a lapse of six and a half centuries.

To give a sense of the beauty of the scene and the spirit pervading the assembly in York Minster that afternoon, the opening words used by the Duchess ring the exact note: "An act of most high praise and glad thanksgiving to Almighty God for the lives and devotion of the fourteen hundred women of the Empire who died for their country in the War, now in the name of their sisters in all parts of the world I unveil and restore to its ancient use the Five Sisters Window."

After a special prayer, in which the originator of the window, John Romanus was remembered, and "those who laboured with him in this place and enriched his work, to conceive and construct this great window now restored," followed the hymn, "For all the Saints who from their labours rest." Next came the dedication of the Memorial Screen by His Grace the Archbishop of York. This screen in the Chapel of Saint Nicholas made from the Minster's own oak and close to the great window is a beautifully-conceived idea by which the names of the women who died are inscribed under the name of the Service in which they were enrolled for duty, and arranged in a series of folding panels on which the light of the great window will ever rest. The thoughts of our leaders cannot be reproduced too often, and the words used by the Archbishop in his address were of such simple grandeur, space limits the full reproduction, but of enduring remembrance are such phrases. "We who are here assembled have lived through a great moment . . . we have beheld a thing of beauty a joy for ever restored to the whole world. Yet there is one glory added to-day to the great window which it never had before. Through its pure and delicate colours there now shines, and will ever shine, the light of service and self-sacrifice which ennobled the women of our land and Empire in the dark days of the Great War. Let no mists of weariness or disappointment blind our eyes to the brightness of that light. . . ."

In conclusion I must relate the story of the dream which inspired the calling of this great work of restoration into existence by "a woman of York," as she is proud to be called—Mrs. Little, the wife of Col. C. B. Little, C.M.G. She has allowed the world to share with her the incident of her dream, when she saw her two little sisters, both of whom had died in childhood, standing hand in hand in the North Transept one beckoning to her, and the other pointing upwards to the window. On waking her one thought was The Five Sisters Window for the Sisters. A flash of genius coupled for ever with nursing. One hundred and seventy-six names alone from among the ranks of Army nurses appear on the first and second panels of the beautiful screen.

To those of us privileged to hear the Last Post and Reveille resound through the transepts of that historic Minster, followed by the National Anthem, will abide an imperishable memory of the deep and enduring meaning of this beautiful ceremony. On the same day, and at the same hour, services were held in Canada, South Africa, South Australia, Western Australia, and New Zealand.

G. LE GEYT.

### ROBIN'S STARCH.

A box of Robin's Starch in the house has many valuable uses, and it is specially to be commended as a dusting powder for tender skins. As such it must be of interest to nurses and midwives, and is indeed a very favourite powder with many of them. It is supplied by Reckitt & Sons, Ltd., Hull, who will supply a container free on receipt of a post-card.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)