

lasted three hours, how many times they stood, bowed, or knelt, I cannot say, I lost count after the 30th; at last the service ended and the men gathered their slippers, boots, or shoes, and left. From the windows of the balcony we had a good view of the city, and everywhere the names of Allah and Mahomet in Arabic were outlined against the sky in electric lights.

It is said that Constantinople is a city of a million sins and a million stinks. I have met stinks quite as bad, if not worse, within twenty-four hours of London; the sins may be there, I do not know, but nowhere have I seen a city illuminated in honour of God, or ten thousand men attending a three hours' service on a cold night with no music, no oratory to attract them, and no seats. They stood, bowed, knelt or prostrated themselves to the ground for the whole of the three hours.

We reached the great square in time to see the Caliph and his bodyguard leaving. It was now past midnight, and we had much difficulty in getting through the crowd, everyone rejoicing that the long fast of Ramadan was over, when for a month no one may eat, drink or smoke from sunrise to sunset. When the Fast comes in the Winter it is not so trying, but when it occurs during the hot weather with the thermometer at 114 deg. or more in the shade, it must be a great trial to the faithful.

We could not leave Constantinople until 2 a.m., so went to Pera which is the most European and fashionable quarter of the city, from the garden of Maxims we could look across the Golden Horn to Stambul where every Mosque was illuminated, and hear in all directions the noise of feasting and rejoicing.

M. H.

LEGAL MATTERS.

Damages for a Nurse.

In the King's Bench Division, before the Lord Chief Justice and a Special Jury, Miss Dorothy Steele, S.R.N., of Ovey's Farm, Cookham, Berkshire, was awarded £2,950 damages against Mr. H. D. Girdwood, of Porchester Gate, W., for injuries received by being struck by the defendant's car. It was stated in evidence that, as the result, she was crippled for life, and was unable to follow her occupation as a nurse. When struck by the car she was knocked into the gutter and rendered unconscious, and was taken to University College Hospital, where she remained unconscious for several days, was found to have sustained a badly fractured leg, and a severe scalp wound, and was detained for many weeks.

Probationer Charged with Arson and Theft.

At the Ironbridge (Shropshire) Police Court, Miss Marion Spencer Jones was on March 24th charged with arson at the Lady Forester Hospital, Much Wenlock, and also with stealing three dresses, the property of Miss Florence Margaret Charity, a nurse at that hospital, on March 14th. The accused, who was defended by Mr. F. Wishart, pleaded "Not Guilty."

Major Becke, Chief Constable of Shropshire, for the prosecution, said that on March 14th a bedroom occupied by Nurse Charity was found to be on fire. The fire originated in two places, in the bedroom, and in a wardrobe in the same room. A cardboard box which had contained three dresses belonging to Nurse Charity was nearly destroyed.

It was further alleged that, on being charged with arson, the accused admitted that she struck a match and lit the box on the bed. She also did the same in the wardrobe and shut the door. She did it to try to cover the other things up. Evidence was given by Nurse Charity that Nurse Jones told her her room was on fire.

The accused was committed for trial at the Shropshire Assizes on both charges, bail being allowed.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

A total of £395,000 was raised for Earl Haig's British Legion Appeal Fund by the sale of Poppies last Armistice Day. This figure is £45,000 in excess of that for 1924.

The King and Queen have expressed their "utmost satisfaction" with the splendid results of Poppy Day, and indeed we must all rejoice at the result, as evidence of the deep gratitude of the nation to its war veterans.

It has been decided that the Fellowship of the British Empire Exhibition shall continue in existence, its new sphere of activity being the pushing forward of the "Buy Empire Goods" campaign. The Prince of Wales approves of the Fellowship carrying on its good work. In his opinion: "Education in matters of trade and migration will go a long way to help us solve the problems of our Empire. Ours is a widely scattered family, and we should develop every means to improve our mutual understanding."

VOTING POWER PER NATION NOT PER CAPITA.

Many of our readers are warmly interested in the League of Nations, having come so closely in touch with the horrors of war, they long for the fellowship of Nations. The Geneva failure has produced a sad impression on the world in general, the "old Adam" is apparently still a very active factor in international affairs. What M. Briand in his eloquent speech described as "the humiliating paralysis of the League" is inevitable under its present constitution. "Big Fives" must go. Oligarchies inevitably produce resentment. The Yugoslavia *Samonprava* criticises the whole League system and advocates the adoption of the majority vote and the transformation of the League Council into a purely executive body for the carrying out of the Assembly's decisions. We approve this principle, and unless there is popular government by the delegates of constituent countries the League of Nations will fail in spirit and in principle. The little old Nations, big in patriotism, and those struggling to advance, don't want, and won't submit to the autocracy of a few sovereign States. That has always been our contention in the organisation of the Nurses' International—equality of voting power per nation—not *per capita*, and we are thankful that fundamental principle of internationalism was upheld at Helsingfors.

WORD FOR THE MONTH.

PLAY UP TO DESTINY.

"Any man who goes through life accepting everything that comes in the spirit of not being able to alter things, is a fool. You must always play the game with your destiny and never let it down. By this I mean that one should do each day's work as it comes along and do it to the best of one's ability. Put every ounce of energy and enthusiasm into it. By doing this you are playing up to your destiny and if you experience reverses—then it is all part of the big programme which has been mapped out for you and probably means that you will succeed in some other field of activity."—ALAN COBHAM, in *Weekly Despatch*.

COMING EVENTS.

April 12th-16th.—Hospital Health, Nursing, and Midwifery Exhibition. Central Hall, Westminster. Noon to 8 p.m. daily.

April 16th.—Meeting of Grand Council, National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 5 p.m.

April 17th.—Meeting of Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council. 431, Oxford Street, London, W.1. 4.30 p.m.

April 30th.—Meeting of General Nursing Council for England and Wales, 20, Portland Place, London, W. 2.30 p.m.

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