

## THE PASSING BELL.

Great regret will be felt by many nurses at the death of Miss Ellen Greenstreet, better known perhaps as Sister Mark at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where many patients, and generations of nurses, esteemed and admired her kindness and goodness. As Treasurer of the Guild of St. Barnabas for many years, she came into contact with a great variety of nurses.

Miss Greenstreet was trained at the Middlesex Hospital and University College Hospital, entering the former training school in 1869. From 1872-1874 she was Matron of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Dublin, but her chief work was done at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she was appointed a Sister in 1879.

Her last days were spent in quiet happiness at St. Monica's, Westbury-on-Trym, near Bristol, where she died in great peace, and near which place she was buried. The League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses sent a wreath in token of remembrance.

We regret to record the death of Miss Flora Stewart Thomson, which occurred on Saturday, March 19th, at University College Hospital. Miss Thomson was trained in the Hospital from 1913-1917, and was subsequently Theatre Sister for one year. She has recently been Private Nursing as a member of the Chartered Society of Nurses. Sister Thomson was an exceptionally fine character, beloved by everybody. The cause of her death was a pulmonary embolism following influenzal pneumonia. She was nursed in the Hospital for two weeks and was very happy to be there. She was buried at her home in Essex.

## THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The King and Queen will visit the King Edward VII Hospital at Windsor on April 20th to open a new King George V wing.

Princess Mary is to open the Maddison Memorial Hospital for mothers and babies at Isleworth in the early summer.

Sir Ernest Hatch, Chairman of University College Hospital, stated at the Annual Meeting that the Infant Welfare department continues to grow in popularity. If £20,000 could be secured a freehold building at the back of the Obstetric Hospital could be converted into an ideal Infant Welfare Centre.

An appeal was made last month in *The Times* by Lord Glenconner for £50,000 for the Prince of Wales's General Hospital, Tottenham, N.15. Lord Glenconner writes that, in addition to the generous offer by Sir Albert Barratt to give £10,000 provided the hospital raised a similar amount, he has been promised £500 if he can find four other individual donors of the same amount. Lord Bearstead has promised the first £500 in response to this challenge.

At the annual meeting of St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, recently held at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor (Sir Rowland Blades), who presided, quoted one striking example of the increase in this hospital's work. In 1923 the number of attendances by out-patients was 3,951, and in 1926 it had risen to 5,956. The high reputation of the Hospital led to a long waiting list, but the new wing, now in course of erection, would mean an addition of 24 more beds. He noted with pleasure that the plan of extension included the provision of a private ward, which would be a great boon to persons of limited means, enable to afford the high fees of an ordinary nursing home.

The board of governors of the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children at Brighton have decided to raise £10,000 for a new wing, to be dedicated to the memory of Queen Alexandra. It will include an operating theatre where the children, as they are taken to the operating theatre, will not see the doctors and nurses masked, as is the present procedure.

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

## THE LOVELY CHILDREN OF THE DOMINIONS.

We are able through the daily press to keep in touch with the strenuous work of the Duke and Duchess of York on their way to open the first Commonwealth Parliament at Canberra. Naturally they have received a most enthusiastic welcome wherever they have been carried by the *Renown*, and New Zealand's loyalty and charm won golden opinions from the Royal guests. At Wellington the Duchess opened the Truby King Home which is to train nurses in the principles of the Plunket mothercraft and baby welfare systems. The Duchess was told how Sir Truby King, finding three neglected babies twenty years ago, resolved to devote his life to teaching the care of the young. Largely by his efforts, the infantile death-rate has now been reduced by one half. The Duchess of York was greatly interested in the home and adjacent kindergarten. "I've seen such lovely babies here" was her testimony to the splendid work of the system.

At the State luncheon the Duke said in special reference to New Zealand's splendid children:—"I will give you an old proverb in a new form, 'Take care of the children and the country will take care of itself.' Wherever we have gone we have been struck by the sturdy appearance and the happy faces of the children. Their gatherings in every town we visited will remain one of the happiest memories of our tour. If we can judge by the appearance of these future citizens, I think we can safely say that the prosperity of the Dominion is assured."

The Prime Minister has been left in no uncertainty as to the keen demand of organised women for equal suffrage—with men—and he has promised that the Government will make a statement in the House of Commons before Easter.

In Parliamentary circles there is a strong feeling that when the Prime Minister makes his promised statement he will indicate the Government's willingness to accept the recommendations of the Special Committee, set up under the Chairmanship of the Home Secretary to consider the whole question; to give the vote to women at twenty-one.

On April 8th, at 12 o'clock, the Lord Mayor will receive the four brave French women who risked their own lives to save those of British soldiers—Mme. Belmont-Gobert and her daughter Angele, Mme. Cardon, and Mme. Baudhin. The Fund raised by the *Daily Telegraph* on their behalf now amounts to over £2,509, and it is hoped that it may reach a total of £3,000 before April 8th, when Trooper Fowler will once again meet his deliverers.

The first Cecil House for Homeless Women was opened in Devonshire Street, Bloomsbury, on Monday last by the Lord Mayor who announced that it was the first of six lodging houses to be built for women in London, which would provide a bed, bath and morning meal for 1s. a night.

Every bed for the night had been taken, and many applications could not be coped with.

A scheme which will appeal to garden lovers is being started by the women's committee of the National Memorial to Queen Alexandra all over England and Wales. In other hands the scheme is being extended to Scotland and to some parts of Ireland. During the Whitsuntide holiday, from May 30th to June 11th inclusive, owners are being asked to open their gardens at a small charge. The owners are responding generously, and soon it is hoped to announce a full list of the gardens and the facilities for visiting them.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)