

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The Queen has consented to open the new buildings of the Polytechnic in Great Portland Street on Thursday, October 10th, at 3 o'clock.

Princess Mary, Viscountess Lascelles, has consented to open the new wing of the Battersea Polytechnic on November 6th. This will provide additional common-room and cloak-room accommodation for women students, a new refectory, and kitchen for general Polytechnic purposes, and two chemical laboratories with two lecture rooms.

The monument which it has been decided to erect in London as a memorial to Marshal Foch will be a replica of the French statue of the illustrious Field Marshal at Cassel, his headquarters during the earlier part of the War, in which the Marshal is represented on horseback looking towards the great stretch of country that once was occupied by the German armies.

The work for the restoration of the Hamlet of the Petit Trianon at Versailles, from plans by M. Catrice Bonnet, will shortly be begun. It will be remembered that the hamlet was built in 1782, to provide Marie Antoinette with a suitable setting for the indulgence of her taste for the simple life. The curators also propose to restore to its original state the Cour de Marble which is enclosed by the façade and two wings in brick and stone of the original hunting lodges built by Louis XIII.

The greater part of the cost will be defrayed from the splendid Rockefeller donation for the restoration and maintenance of Versailles, and money could not be better expended.

The foundation stone of the new Palace of the League of Nations was laid on September 7th in the Ariana Park, Geneva, by the President of the Assembly, Señor Querrero. As those nurses who visited Geneva in 1927 know, the site is an ideal one, and from the present buildings there is a fine view of Lake Geneva, Mont Blanc, and the mountains of Savoy.

The lead casket enclosed in the stone contains a copy of the Covenant of the League, a document on parchment recording the nature of the ceremony, the purpose of the building and the names of the member States, and specimens of gold, silver, bronze, and nickel coins contributed by member States.

In regard to the Optional Clause, signed by this country on September 19th, M. Briand reminded the Assembly that France had signed it five years ago. He described as "abominable criminals" those who are attempting to "poison the uprising generations" by instilling into the minds of young children the idea that there can be no permanent pacification, and ended with an appeal to the women which was received with enthusiastic applause by those in the galleries of the Salle de la Réformation.

It is reported at Ottawa that the Canadian Government has agreed to a proposal made by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to co-operate with the British Government in a plan whereby emigrants to Canada and their families will still be eligible for old age pensions, and widows' allowances, paid by the British Treasury. Surely those who make permanent homes in this great Dominion will not be willing to be dependent on the Mother Country for such payments, nor should we be taxed to pay them.

After a full-dress debate lasting for two days the Council of State in India have passed without any amendments Rai Sahib Harbilas Sarda's Child Marriage Prevention Bill as recommended by the Legislative Assembly. The Governor-General's assent to the Bill is now certain.

LETTER 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.

THE PEACE SPIRIT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In "Headway" for this month of September there was an article of some length about the recent "Jamboree" as a contribution to World Peace, and it struck me forcibly why should not some such reference be made to the great Congress of the World's Nurses at Montreal in July last, which, equally with the "Jamboree," demonstrated the true Peace spirit.

Who more vitally interested in Peace than women? and we trained nurses should like our part in the movement to be more widely known. I shall hope to see an article on the Montreal Congress in an early copy of "Headway."

Yours faithfully,

"Andaman,"

Weald Lane,
Harrow.

EMILY DINNIE,

S.R.N., M.B.C.N.

[We regret that other Correspondence is unavoidably held over.—Ed.]

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Pre-historic Conditions:

Maternity Nurse writes: "It is now some twenty years since I took my C.M.B. certificate, and I have, off and on, taken many maternity cases. Of course, in the pre-historic past of nursing, all "abdominals" were nursed by the same nurse night and day. That barbarous system has long been discontinued, though many surgeons fought against reforms. But maternity nursing is still carried out by one nurse—and no one appears to realise what a strain it is. When is 'authority,' lay and medical, going to wake up and prevent women being permitted to work night and day? Neither mother nor babe would suffer by the attendance of a day and night nurse. Indeed, we should have many less nervy maternity nurses around. It always amazes me that this cruel overworking of maternity nurses is accepted by all concerned in the most selfish spirit, and as a matter of course; and as for legislators, whilst fussing over laundry hands and miners, factory hands and clerical workers, maternity nurses are presumably not human beings who require to live according to the natural law—especially where sleep is concerned. Can the *B.J.N.* agitate for reform?"

NOTICE.

Those requiring extra copies of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING for October and the subsequent months, should place their orders at once with the Manager, B.J.N., 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, as there is already an increased demand for these issues containing a full report of the Meetings at Montreal, of the International Council and Congress of Nurses. (Price 7d.)

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

We regret we are unable to award a prize this month, no paper of sufficient merit having been received.

PRIZE COMPETITION FOR NOVEMBER.

In a case of unconsciousness following suspected poisoning what would you get ready for the doctor to use? What do you know of the common narcotic poisons, their antidotes, and the application of these?

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