

The British nurses replied immediately with "They are jolly good fellows."

It was suggested that the Dutch nurses should rest until tea, but they "did not come to England to rest," and soon they had dispersed, some to walk in Kensington Gardens, and to visit Peter Pan, others to climb to the top of a 'bus "to see London." The popular Sunday afternoon drawing-room tea party swelled to about a hundred nurses at four o'clock, and then the Dutch and some British nurses went to the service at Westminster Abbey, where they were given seats in the choir, and then they walked back through St. James's Park to see Buckingham Palace.

After supper, they were just preparing to go to bed, when a Press photographer arrived (the first of many during the next fortnight), and to the nurses' great amusement, refused to leave until he had taken a flashlight photograph.

Reverence for Miss Nightingale.

We took it not merely as evidence of a fine sense of the fitness of things on the part of our guests, but also as a courtesy to the nursing profession in England, that their first official act was to journey to Hampshire to lay their tribute at the grave of the great Foundress of modern nursing. When they returned, they expressed themselves as "so touched by the experiences of the day that they could almost cry." They enjoyed to the full their drive through the lovely English lanes, and spoke with enthusiasm of the riches of spring flowers. They visited Winchester Cathedral, and enjoyed what they saw of the antiquities of that town, for the Dutch have a wonderful feeling for and appreciation of things that are beautiful, artistic, and rare. Through the kindness of Mr. J. J. Crossfield, the owner of Embley Park, the nurses were able to explore the beautiful gardens there, and to see the home of Florence Nightingale. The former they described as "quite beyond description." Meantime in London, the Press had somehow learnt of the arrival of the nurses from Holland, with the result that the telephone kept us busy all the morning replying to enquiries regarding their movements. The outcome of the information given was a very unexpected experience for the nurses, for when the charabanc reached East Wellow, they found themselves "surrounded by fourteen photographers and a cinema man!" At the churchyard of East Wellow, the nurses were met by the Vicar, who showed them great kindness; all the school children had been given a half holiday and came to the churchyard in order that they might see the nurses of a foreign land pay their tribute to a great Englishwoman. Inside the gate of the churchyard, Miss Meyboom "marshalled" her nurses and led them in solemn, well-ordered procession, to the grave of Miss Nightingale. She carried the large wreath which they had brought from their homeland. It was tied with the colours of Holland, and on the ribbon was inscribed in large lettering the following: "With deep feelings from the Nurses of Holland." By the grave, Miss Meyboom clasped the hand of Miss Liddiatt (a British nurse), and said: "We, British and Dutch nurses, unite in reverence to Your Memory"; thereupon, she laid the wreath on the grave of Miss Nightingale. The nurses then stood for three minutes with bowed heads in reverent silence, and, following the example of the Vicar, the other men in the churchyard stood bareheaded meanwhile. Then they all trooped out of the simple village churchyard, those nurses who had come from a foreign land to make this act of remembrance and veneration, the first in a long programme they had drawn up of things they wished to see and do in England. At Romsey, the nurses were conducted over the famous Abbey by the Vicar.

The next morning was given up to seeing the shops and visiting places of interest to Nurses within easy reach of Queen's Gate.

In accordance with a request which had been made by Miss Meyboom, Miss Macdonald gave a lecture on Nursing History and showed lantern slides to illustrate this. Miss Meyboom took the chair and, after introducing Miss Macdonald to an audience of Dutch and British Nurses, said that she had carefully enquired as to what were regarded as the chief duties of a Chairman in England; she had been told that a Chairman's chief duty was "to sit down," and so she would perform that duty at once. She then sat down amid hearty laughter and applause. At the close of the lecture she presented Miss Macdonald with a beautiful sheaf of orchids and fern.

Reception at Queen's Gate.

The Council of the R.B.N.A. held a Reception, from 4 to 6, for members of the Association, and of the British College of Nurses, which had been arranged prior to the arrangements for the Dutch visit. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss H. L. Pearse and Miss Beatrice Cutler, the Vice-Chairmen, were present, and the beautiful rooms, lavishly decorated with lovely spring flowers, were crowded throughout the afternoon and the happiest greetings exchanged between hostesses and guests from home and abroad.

Visit to the London Hospital and Bart.'s.

On the following day they visited the London Hospital, where they met with great courtesy, and then went on to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and returned charmed with Miss Dey's kindness and delightful hospitality; they described in enthusiastic terms the beautiful Nurses' Home, including the Isla Stewart Memorial Library, where the fine plaque of this great pioneer of nursing organisation is placed. Of the wonderful new wards and their splendid up-to-date appliances—our colleagues from Holland were full of praise.

One Nurse secured a photograph of a Scialytique lamp in one of the theatres and carried it off in triumph. She had long tried to persuade the surgeon in her hospital to have one, and this photograph from St. Bartholomew's would, she considered, prove an unanswerable argument when next she exerted her persuasive faculties.

The Dutch Nurses were thrilled by their visit to Queen Charlotte's Hospital. The Matron (Miss Cowie) most kindly arranged that they should be present at the clinics of Dr. Eric Pritchard and Mr. Rivett; they described this as "a great educational privilege." According to their report the former had been subjected to some cross-examination, but his questioner came home triumphant, for "she had asked many doctors in Holland a certain question in relation to Infant Feeding without success, and she had got a full and clear explanation from Dr. Eric Pritchard."

Miss Peterkin (Superintendent of the Q.I.D.N.) very kindly arranged that the Nurses should see one of the Homes of the Queen's Institute for District Nurses, and they were hospitably taken over that at Hackney by Miss Wynne-Edwards, one Dutch Nurse especially (a Superintendent in the same branch of Nursing) found this very interesting; on the way to the Home they paid a hurried visit to the R.B.N.A. Settlement Home at Clapton and were received there by the Sister-in-Charge (Miss Pocock) and Miss Cattell.

Reception at the British College of Nurses.

On Friday, April 11th, the President and Council of the British College of Nurses had the pleasure of entertaining the party of Dutch Nurses at 39, Portland Place. In their honour, wearing their beautiful Robes, there were present to receive them in the hall: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, Miss M. Breay and Miss S. A. Villiers, Vice-Presidents, and the following Councillors, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss D. K. Graham, Miss I. Mac-

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