

bundle of satin, with tears of passion streaming down her chubby face.

"What is it my lamb? Tell Nannie."

"I can't get inside," sobbed Lady Ann. "I thought it was like Pwincess Elizabeth's lickle house."

At the same moment H'Iris awoke in the bed shared with 'Orace and her mother. Mrs. 'Arris slept the sleep of exhaustion following the strenuous cleaning of "me offices."

'Orace, placid as usual, was sucking a crust he had discovered in the bedclothes.

Nothing unusual so far. Gradually it came to H'Iris's consciousness that it was Christmas Day, and there was rabbit for dinner. This excited her so much that she sat bolt upright in bed, and what she then saw caused her to rub her eyes again.

Propped on the mantleshef was the little doll from the shop. Its eyes were closed, which, as it was yet dark and appropriate, added to the ecstasy of the child.

"Mum, Mum," she shrieked. "Wake up, Mum. Look, look, wherever did it come from?"

"Father Christmas come down the chimley in the night and fetched it for a good gal," said Mrs. 'Arris.

The humble little Child
Of Blessed Mary mild
Always content He played
With toys by Joseph made.
His rough-hewn horse of wood,
Foreshowed the rougher Rood.

* * *
In His dear children He
Loves best simplicity.

H. H.

A PRACTICAL CHRISTMAS GIFT.

We would like to draw our readers' attention to the merits of the Ingram's "Eclipse" guaranteed hot water bottle which is British made, and which very opportunely makes an ideal gift for Christmas.

It will last for years because it is made of the finest quality Para rubber; the seams are specially strengthened and the whole is reinforced with canvas of high tensile strength. It is made for stability and service. No household should be without one.

The firm of Ingram's was founded in 1847, and the excellence of its productions are known all over the world.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS AT POPULAR PRICES.

Gayler & Pope, Ltd., Nurses' Outfitters & General Drapers, 112-117, High Street, Marylebone, W., are to be recommended for inexpensive Christmas Presents. They have a remarkable display of gloves, stockings, handkerchiefs in boxes, dainty underwear, and novelties of all kinds at popular prices. Those at 1s. 11½d. to 5s. 11d. are of remarkable value.

Their Nurses Overalls—Aprons—Caps and Woolies are well known to our readers and make most acceptable gifts. A visit to this store will well repay the discriminating shopper and one is assured of willing and courteous service.

COMING EVENTS.

December 10th.—Royal British Nurses' Association. Tour of Greek Statuary at British Museum, conducted by Mr. Cecil Hallett (those wishing to attend the group should communicate with Miss Isabel Macdonald, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7). 1.45 p.m.

December 18th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Monthly meeting, 20, Portland Place, W. 2.30 p.m.

December 19th.—British College of Nurses. Monthly Meeting of Council, 2.15 p.m. Celebration of Registration Day. Ceremony of cutting Registration Cake. 4.30 p.m. 39, Portland Place, W.

December 25th.—Christmas Day. Hospital Festivities.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The Archbishop of Canterbury calls attention to the fact that the first Sunday of the New Year, January 3rd, is to be observed as a day of prayer for our nation at this critical time.

The portrait of the Queen presented to the Royal Hospital of Bridewell and Bethlem by the president, Lord Wakefield, has been unveiled by the Lord Mayor. Later the portrait, which has been painted by Mr. David Jagger, will be hung in the committee room of the new Bethlem Hospital at Monks Orchard, S.E., to commemorate the opening of the institution by the Queen last year.

The London County Council have refused a petition of the Medical Women's Federation that marriage should not constitute a bar to the appointment of a woman to any medical post, nor should it be a cause for the termination of her contract. At present under Standing Order 395 married women are ineligible for employment.

Sir William Ray argued that if there had been in existence any large body of public opinion against the Standing Order it would have been challenged.

In moving a Resolution at the Twelfth Session of the League of Nations Assembly, appealing "to all men and women of good will throughout the world to show by action their sympathy for those who are the victims of the appalling catastrophe in China, "Lord Cecil, as reported in the *Information Bulletin* of the League of Red Cross Societies, declared that the latest disaster was without parallel in the history of China. It had been estimated that ten million human beings had perished and that something like thirty millions were homeless and in need of relief.

Although it is impossible as yet to ascertain the exact number of the victims, it is already safe to assume that twenty-three million persons are in need of help and that four million habitations have been destroyed.

The region of Hankow was the first affected, almost half of its territory being invaded by the waters of the Yang-Tse.

The Board of the International Relief Fund has freighted the steamer *Hannah Moller* for conversion into a hospital ship. This vessel has proceeded to Hankow, where it will ensure liaison with the clinic installed on the shore. In its capacity as a medical centre, it will be equipped with a bacteriological service. The staff of the Union Hospital of Hankow, which has been completely demolished by the floods, will be entrusted with the care of the sick, while the staff of the Lister Institute will be in charge of the medical service.

It will be remembered that in our October issue we published a graphic account by Miss Gladys Stephenson, Matron of the Union Hospital, Hankow, of its demolition. We are glad to know that the services of the nursing staff have been secured for such useful work. It could not be in better hands. On the following page we publish a letter from Miss Stephenson.

AN OLD ENGLISH FAIR.

An Old English Fair held at the College of Nursing, Henrietta Street, on December 4th and 5th, was opened on Friday by Lady Violet Astor, and on Saturday by Viscountess Goschen. There were stalls for the sale of household goods, children's wear, glassware, pottery, stationery, and confectionery.

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