

amount arising should go to one of the Association's benevolent schemes. These were sold at once and we have procured further copies, the profits on the sale of which Dr. Sloan Chesser has generously asked us to give to the Helena Benevolent Fund. If any members wish to have a copy of those books they should write to the Secretary enclosing 1s. 2d. in stamps.

## RAMBLE.

### CANTERBURY PILGRIMS.

On a typical April morning on "Primrose Day" the Ramblers set out once more on a voyage of discovery with Canterbury Cathedral as their objective. Many pilgrims have trodden in their time, staff in hand, almost the same highways, but surely none have set out with a greater gaiety in the joys of anticipation, for we have already experienced, on similar sojourns to the great Cathedral town, the power that beauty holds to refresh and renew both spirit and mind. We had planned a picnic in some primrose-clad wood when the hour for luncheon should arrive; but we were not successful in discovering any such fairyland. Beautiful enough, however, were the highways of Kent with foliage just bursting and spreading itself delicately over the traceries of the trees. Despite occasional showers, April was in a gracious mood, and the magic that hangs about a morning in Spring was enough to draw out just the mood for Canterbury; all the way the tuneful people of the woods were singing their greetings as we passed over the roads.

Kent has often been described as the "Garden of England" and it might just as well be described as the cradle of the English people; in it we contact many a connection with the earliest stages of our civilisation, at least in so far as historical investigation carries us.

The greatest moment in any pilgrimage to Canterbury is surely that in which you catch the first glimpse of that glorious gem of a cathedral as it stands a perfect dream of architecture and grace against a blue sky. Would that the old Romans who built the first little Christianised Church on its site could see the result of their inspiration. Scarcely have you experienced to the full this "vision splendid" when you are at the glorious West Gate of Canterbury, completed just as it now stands, by an Archbishop of the fourteenth century. Once inside the Cathedral we were not sorry to find that we had arrived too early for our appointments so that we were able to wander round singly or in groups to absorb something of the pervading beauty that characterises the place, with its riches of artistic imagination and artistic workmanship; lovely flowers of the springtime were there in abundance against every column and tracery and one felt all the charm that clings about things quaint and olden, about surroundings hallowed by reverence and prayer throughout long ages. We were conducted over the building by one of the "Friends of Canterbury Cathedral" (Here we might explain that this is an organisation of ladies who have undertaken very varied tasks and duties in connection with the Cathedral and its place in English life.) Our guide had taken as her particular part the duty of taking visitors over the Cathedral, and she proved indeed well qualified to be a friend of pilgrims. Not only did she point out many beautiful aspects of the Cathedral, many artistic gems and many sacred places there, but she also succeeded in disclosing to us events that have gone to the making of the story of religion and history in England. Here, too, you can, if you will, gather fragments of nursing history.

After seeing all that time would allow we set out in search of our chariots again and drove to Kent County Hospital, Canterbury, where we were entertained with

great hospitality by Miss Taylor, Matron of the Hospital. The Medical Superintendent and Mrs. Collins were also present to welcome us and very warm appreciation was expressed by the nurses of the hospitality and courtesy extended to them. We admired the glorious surroundings, for the hospital looks for miles across the "Garden of England"; the beautiful grounds with their wealth of flowers and the spacious wards with their wide windows and balconies leave nothing to be desired from the patients' point of view, and as we walked round one or two of the wards we received cordial greetings and happy smiles from most of them.

When the hour had struck for us to start on our homeward journey April was in a mood for laughter and the whole landscape beautiful in the soft rich colour-values that it assumes at evening-time in spring. Later the sun set in a great splendour to leave us one last glorious memory of a well-spent day. For are not all beautiful things an expression for us of a purer and higher life outside the rush and hurry that of necessity rules our lives? From such a point of view we once more tender to the "Chief Rambler" (Miss Liddiatt) thanks for both mental and physical refreshment.

### THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TRAINED NURSES ANNUITY FUND.

The Annual Meeting of the Trained Nurses Annuity Fund will be held at 194, Queen's Gate, on Friday, May 25th, at 3.30 p.m. We hope that as many of those who subscribe so generously to the Benevolent Fund will be able to attend. We extend to them all an invitation to take tea after the meeting is over.

### OBITUARY.

It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Miss Florence Beal after a very long illness, attended with much suffering, throughout the course of which she showed great fortitude. Miss Beal was trained at Highfield Infirmary, Sunderland, and joined the Association in 1919.

### BRIDGE DRIVE.

A Bridge Drive was arranged recently at the Club, and a large company gathered for this evening's recreation, and apparently enjoyed, in sportsmanlike spirit, the contests involved as they passed from one table to another.

### FIXTURES.

On Thursday, May 17th, from 4 to 6 p.m., the Council will be "At Home" to Members of the Association, and we hope that many will be able to be present. Miss Liddiatt informs us that she is arranging another Ramble by charabanc for May 24th, but she has not yet decided whether it will be to Littlehampton or Cambridge; this depends upon certain fixtures, which she hopes to make, for visits by the way. Will those who hope to join the Ramble kindly apply for full particulars to the Secretary. For Thursday, May 31st, we are arranging an "American Tea" in aid of the House Beautiful Fund. Last year we had a very heavy outlay in making new additions to the Club, so that we are the more anxious to do as much as possible to help this Fund to meet the expenses necessary for redecoration; much of this is necessary annually in such a large building. This summer we are having new chintzes in the drawing-room, which is always an expensive item. Gifts should be forwarded not later than 29th inst., and we hope that each Member in London who can attend will bring a gift of the value of one shilling and buy one at the same amount. Tea will be served at the cost of one shilling.

194, Queen's Gate,  
London, S.W.7.

ISABEL MACDONALD,  
Secretary to the Corporation.

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