

## WHAT OUR FELLOWS ARE DOING.

Government Hospital for Women and Children,  
Edgmore, Madras, S. India.

Miss Dora Chadwick writes: "I arrived back from leave on the 1st of November and very quickly settled down to work again, and to the preparations for Christmas. These, of course, are not on such a big scale as at home, because only a minority of our patients are Christians and not all of the staff either. Still, all have to share in whatever good things there are. Also it's not easy to get a Christmas spirit in a climate which is never cold, still we do our best.

The hospital continues to be busy, and in 1935 we broke a record with 4,075 births for the year. We had not before reached 4,000 and so I had a prize of 15 Rupees for the mother of the 4,000th baby born. The baby arrived on Christmas Day, so the mother was very happy. She was 14 years old, it was her first baby and a boy, so all was good for her. A few weeks ago I, as a member of the Madras Nurses and Midwives Council and an Examiner (for Government) of the Christian Medical Association's Nurses' examinations, received an invitation to accompany the Secretary of the C.M.A. Examination Board on a tour of inspection of Mission Hospitals in S. India, with a view to seeing the facilities for the training of nurses and midwives and the recognition of those hospitals by the Nurses and Midwives Council and the Government of Madras.

Miss Noordyk and I left Madras on January 17th and arrived back on the 31st, during which time we have inspected 15 hospitals and travelled over 2,000 miles to do it. It has been a most interesting tour and we have been able to see what very good work is being done in our profession. Some of the hospitals were very good indeed, and some we were able to give helpful advice to. In all places we were welcomed, and asked for advice where there were peculiar difficulties. I think this is the first time that such an inspection has been carried out, and shows that as far as nursing is concerned there is very definite co-operation taking place between Missions and the Government of Madras, which can only lead to better conditions and a higher standard of work done. I have not yet managed to make the Government see that we as a profession should have a definite position amongst other professions instead of being 'a medical subordinate service,' but I do not intend to be satisfied until we can be proclaimed as the 'Madras Nursing Service.' Still in a country which has in the past had a very low idea of nursing, it is bound to take time. Of one thing I am certain, and that is that we have progressed a good deal in the 10 years I have been out here."

Washington, U.S.A.

Miss Pearl Morrison writes: "I want to thank you so much for sending me, what was then a valuable and much appreciated Christmas card, but what has now become doubly so. Little did we know it was to be the last Christmas card of our King George V. I shall treasure it exceedingly, and I am so very grateful that you made it possible for me to have it.

I thank you and the Council also for your thought and Christmas wishes which sent it across the sea. I also got Miss Macdonald's "Elizabeth Alkin" from Miss Macaulay, which I appreciate so much. I hope everyone at the College had a happy Christmas season and my greeting reached you in complete form this year; last year half was missing.

What a sad time has followed Christmas for all British people. The radio brings everything so near these days that we are able to feel we are almost in London. I got up 4.45 a.m. to hear the new King proclaimed, and 4.15 to hear the funeral procession leave Westminster Hall.

Again, I heard the service at Windsor. At 11 a.m. I attended a service here in the Cathedral. Admission was by ticket only, but I happened to be a Vice-President of the Canadian Club of Washington and had one of the precious tickets given to the Club. The Cathedral is not completed, and when the entire Diplomatic Corps and official Washington was seated there was little room left for just Britishers. The British Embassy issued all tickets and Sir Ronald and Lady Lindsay received the Diplomats at the entrance ceremony and saw all depart.

There were two floral pieces, one from the White House was of pink and white carnations with bow of pink satin which stood beside the "Stars and Stripes," in front of which sat Mrs. Roosevelt; opposite was one of white lilies from the Secretary of State, and this stood beside the Union Jack, in front of which sat the British Embassy Staff. It was a lovely Service."

## FIXTURES.

March 21st.—Monthly Meeting of the Council. 2.30 p.m.

## ADMINISTRATION CLASSES.

The Council of the British College of Nurses have pleasure in notifying its members that through courtesy of the authorities of the National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Place, W.C.2, a Course of three Lectures will be held at 2.30 p.m. on the following subjects:—

March 12th, Thursday, "The Marlboroughs."

April 2nd, Thursday, "The Stuarts in Exile."

May 7th, Thursday, "Some Famous Women."

Fellows and Members wishing to attend should apply for particulars as soon as possible to the Secretary, The British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

## ADDRESS ON THE ROMANCE OF HERALDRY.

We much regret that owing to pressure on our space the report of Sir Algernon Tudor Craig's most interesting address given at the British College of Nurses on February 12th is unavoidably deferred to our next issue.

## NARCO-ANALYSIS.

Dr. J. Stephen Horsley, Senior Assistant Medical Officer at the Dorset Mental Hospital, in a letter addressed to *The Lancet* on the above subject, writes: "Recent allusions in the newspapers to the use in America of 'truth serum' ignore the fact that certain drugs facilitate not only the divulgence of carefully guarded secrets, but also the restoration of forgotten memories. Such possibilities are of interest not only to the criminologist, but also to the psychiatrist. The successful combination of narcosis with psycho-therapy would be a real advance in mental treatment. Many writers have referred to the value of such a combination, but so far as I know the narco-psychological approach has not advanced beyond simple suggestion." He then describes his attempts to extend this line of investigation by experimenting with other drugs. He reports: "I find nembatal the most effective in producing sedation with the minimum of confusion. I have evolved a technique which I call 'narco-analysis.'

"A state of light narcosis is produced by the slow intravenous injection of a 2½ per cent. solution of nembatal. During the injection every effort is made to make the patient amenable to hypnotic analysis. The resulting willingness of the patient, the release of inhibitions, and the ability to recall experience, recent or remote, makes analysis relatively simple and speedy. In an hour the physician obtains a quantity of relevant information which he would not have obtained in a month by ordinary methods. A true hypnotic state is induced, and this facilitates suggestion, which must be given with great care and forethought. It is directed in all cases towards restoring the contact of the patient with the realities of his life and environment."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)