

RECEPTION BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN AND HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE, JULY 20th, 1937.

In this busy Coronation Year, when every hour of time was requisitioned for public duties by the Royal Family—the Reception by Her Majesty the Queen, and Her Majesty Queen Mary, at Buckingham Palace, of the members of Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses, was appreciated with very sincere pleasure by the Presidents and Delegates of the Nurses' National Associations composing the Council—now representing 33 countries—naturally there were few absentees and some 150 guests were present. Buckingham Palace, surrounded as it is by spacious grounds and gardens, is an ideal environment for a garden party, and the guests of Their Majesties naturally rallied to this historic Reception in charming

appear, been a Queen in many incarnations—is majesty personified.

The groups of nurses which stretched across the lawn were presented in turn to the two Queens—who apparently found something interesting to say to each, of their country, their work—their orders and medals. Queenship is not quite so easy as it would appear, and of recent times has, indeed, become an exacting profession and a fine art of culture and manners.

Later, tea was served in the Ambassadors' tent, the Queens participating in the entertainment of their guests, and when they retired the honoured guests exchanged with pride their experiences of what they had in reply been able to report of their national standards of nursing and their needs.

Little wonder that after their gracious reception they were smiling and happy.

"Just one more lovely pageant," said one. "A never-to-be-forgotten day," said another.



Photo 1

[Central Press Photos, Ltd.]

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

Her Majesty Queen Mary.

RECEIVING THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL, I.C.N., JULY 20th, 1937.

attire—a few in very neat and becoming uniform—and groups in national costume. The representatives of the Philippines in the exquisite gauzy lavishly embroidered gowns which give an airy note of colour wherever seen—you will realise, therefore, that variety of costume enlivened the scene—and when the various national groups were assembled awaiting the coming of the Queens, one realised that not only here were the leaders of the great profession of nursing, from the five continents, but that such women had raised the work of nursing from tireless yet well-beloved drudgery, to a fine art—according to Florence Nightingale, the finest art in the world.

Presently the Queens, accompanied by Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, President of the International Council, came across the lawn from the Palace—"The Fairy Queen," as someone called Queen Elizabeth—dressed in French pink lace—roses in her white hat—smiling; her lovely blue eyes and marked brows giving great distinction to her expressive face.

Queen Mary, in white, handsomely befringed—wearing the usual very becoming flowered toque—has, it would

"So sorry not etiquette to take a snapshot, but this picture remains for ever engraved on my memory," said a third.

"If only it had rained and we could have had a glimpse of the inside of the Palace," said a fourth.

With that last aspiration we have sympathy—"as within the century of its existence Buckingham Palace has undoubtedly usurped the proud claim of Windsor Castle to be the greatest House in the Empire, it has become in every sense the very heart and centre of the British Commonwealth," states Mr. H. Clifford Smith in his Silver Jubilee Edition of the "History of Buckingham Palace," a work of extraordinary interest to the lover of artistic treasures of the very highest quality, such as are beloved by Queen Mary.

Writing from Barbados, on July 22nd, Miss Elsie Hudson says:—

"It was very thrilling to hear over the wireless that the Nurses of the Congress had been received by the Queen; these weeks must be exceedingly interesting and I am looking forward to read all about them in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING."

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