

## International Students.

### ONE-DAY VISIT TO MAIDENHEAD AND DISTRICT.

An uninitiated and unsuspecting resident passing through the Guildhall, Maidenhead, or in the vicinity of this hub of the town's civic life on Wednesday morning might pardonably have been forgiven any astonishment if he or she had suddenly stopped sharply with wondering incredulity at the sounds of some 20 odd girls chattering away excitedly alternately in English and in a variety of different tongues. Let us hasten to explain. These young ladies were a body of international students from the Bedford College for Women, Regents Park, London, and the reason for their visit to Maidenhead and the district was that they were being conducted on a demonstration course, including an out-door programme, of various points of scientific interest in this neighbourhood. These students, some 20 to 25 in number, accommodated at a hostel in 15, Manchester-square, London, W.1, are selected from those who hold responsible appointments in nursing or public health work throughout the world for a course of instruction founded by the International Red Cross Society in memory of Florence Nightingale and termed the "Florence Nightingale International Foundation." The course consists of one year's special training in nursing, hygiene and sociology at Bedford College, and from time to time these students are invited by Dr. J. J. Paterson, Medical Officer of Health for the East Berks United Sanitary Districts, to Maidenhead, a visit which is very much looked forward to.

The party entertained on Wednesday arrived by motor-coach and were met by Dr. Paterson, who shepherded them to the Council Chamber in the Guildhall. Here they were introduced to the Mayor (Councillor Mrs. A. Thornber) by Dr. Paterson as "his nightingales," an appropriate designation of his temporary charges, since they were carrying on the inspired work of the famous Florence Nightingale, the "Lady with the Lamp," who shed light on the principles of nursing and hygiene which had hitherto been obscured by the darkness of ignorance, indifference and prejudice. Dr. Paterson told the Mayor that these young ladies had come from all over the world "to light their lamps" and then to carry back with them the light of scientific knowledge to their respective countries for the benefit of humanity and to pass on the light to their followers. The welcome they gave to the English nightingale might well be extended to these young ladies, he said, on the occasion of their visit.

The Mayor briefly but very warmly and cordially welcomed the students to Maidenhead, and expressed the hope that they would find their visit interesting and enjoyable.

Light refreshments, provided by the Mayor, who was assisted by two or three ladies, were partaken of before the party commenced its tour. Just as the students were leaving, Alderman L. R. F. Oldershaw, J.P., chairman of the Health Committee of the Maidenhead Town Council, came along to express a few further words of welcome to the visitors.

The party of students was then conveyed to Jesus Hospital, Bray, an historic institution, and they afterwards went on to Bray village, where a demonstration of rural sanitation was arranged for them. Lunch was taken at Brock's Restaurant, Queen-street, Maidenhead, and a visit was next made to Rashleighs Dairy Farm for a demonstration of dairy methods. Tea was taken at Maidenhead's model Isolation Hospital, the "apple of the eye" of Dr. Paterson, who is its Medical Officer, and the party afterwards returned to London.

Among the students who made the visit to Maidenhead were the following:—K. Virginia Betzold (U.S.A.), Margaret F. Buchanan (Canada), Freda H. M. Chapman (Great Britain), Olive F. Griffith (Great Britain), Florence A. Heaney (Great Britain), Maria Hoogenboezem (Netherlands), Maria Karaiossifidou (Greece), Louise V. U. Lagercrantz (Sweden), Claribel McCorquodale (Canada), Inga Mahler (Denmark), Thressa M. Mambuca (U.S.A.), Maisie K. Miller (Canada), Korshed Nowroji (India), Gladys M. Over (U.S.A.), Mary M. Robertson (Great Britain), Agnes Sinervo (Finland), Margaret Dahrymple-Smith (Great Britain), Elizabeth Vostehn (Germany), Loh-Loh Wang (China), Ruth Vee Wheelock (U.S.A.) and Patricia P. Whiting (South Africa).