

I am able to report that the innovations so far carried out have met with universal approbation from visitors to the galleries of all classes. Much remains to be done.

Visitors. After two previous visits by Her Majesty, in June and November, Their Majesties the King and Queen paid a private visit to the Institute on the 15th December, when they were received by the President of the Board of Governors, Mr. Arthur Michael Samuel, Parliamentary Secretary to the Department for Overseas Trade, Sir William Clark, Chairman of the Managing Committee, and myself. Their Majesties were much impressed by the improvements which had been carried out, and the measures that are being taken for educational visits by school children. I afterwards received the following letter of appreciation from Lord Stamfordham,

Dear Sir William Furse,

It was a great pleasure to the King and Queen to-day to re-visit the galleries of the Imperial Institute. Their Majesties were much interested in the transformation already made in the galleries and feel confident that, when this change is realised by the public, and more especially by the Education Authorities, the fullest advantage will be taken of the opportunities now afforded by the new Board of Governors. The new and beautiful dioramas, with the accompanying exhibits, offer an attractive and stimulating education in the scenery, activities and development of our Dominions, India and the Colonies. The King and Queen were also gratified to know that, by an arrangement between the Board of Governors and Council of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, an Imperial Gallery of Art has been set aside for the exhibition of the Scholarship Work of the British School at Rome, and of the work of contemporary artists from every part of the Empire, at home and overseas.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) STAMFORDHAM.

H.R.H. Princess Mary Viscountess Lascelles, also accompanied the Queen on her second visit.

Among Governors of Colonies who have come to the Institute during the year were Sir John Chancellor, Governor of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Gordon Guggisberg, Governor-General of the Gold Coast, Sir Ronald Storrs, Governor of Cyprus, and Sir R. E. Stubbs, Captain-General of Jamaica. Many Officers of the Colonial Services have from time to time paid visits and have made valuable suggestions.

GENERAL PUBLIC. The average attendance by the general public since the re-opening of the galleries is 10,300 per month.