

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The King's Champion.

Mr. Frank Scaman Dymoke, of Scrivelsby Court, Horn-castle, Lincolnshire, the King's Champion, has received authority from the Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, to carry the Standard of England at the Coronation, a proud privilege indeed!

Mr. Dymoke is entitled to bear the Standard of England by virtue of his tenure of the Manor of Scrivelsby. His family has held the office of King's Champion since 1377, and a Dymoke has attended every Coronation from that date.

In olden days it was the right and duty of the King's Champion to ride in full armour, mounted on a charger, into Westminster Hall while the Coronation banquet was being held, and challenge all who should deny the King to be the lawful sovereign. The last occasion on which this imposing rite was performed was at the Coronation of George IV.

We are reporting this paragraph on a beautiful little Queen Anne walnut table bought at a sale at Scrivelsby Court on the death of the late Sir Henry Dymoke some fifty years ago, since which time there have already been two Coronations.

Oliver Twist in the Commons.

The increase proposed of an additional £37,000 a year for ministerial salaries is only the beginning of demands by backbenchers, who already cost the State over a quarter of a million annually, and who demand more.

Then naturally the hard-worked proletariat will demand a *doceur* and that is how the apparently dumb little middle-class people are squeezed dry. It is high time the extravagant standard of living of many politicians was nipped in the bud instead of being encouraged, as it is, by every Party.

We foresee another rise in the income tax—for national defence we should not grudge it, but for the increased cost of politicians we shall grudge it every time.

Who Cares?

Details of road accidents involving personal injury, and the number of persons killed or injured in Great Britain last year, analysed according to the class of vehicle concerned, are contained in a return issued by the Home Office (Stationery Office, 6d.).

In 1936 there were in Great Britain 198,978 road accidents in which persons were killed or injured, an increase of 3,086 accidents compared with the preceding year. Persons killed numbered 6,561, an increase of 59; and injuries numbered 227,813, an increase of 6,087.

A Film of Queen Victoria.

Mr. Herbert Wilcox will begin work at Denham next month on the production of "Victoria the Great," in which Miss Anna Neagle will be seen as the Queen and Mr. Anton Walbrook as the Prince Consort. The film will include a short pageant made in colour. It will be shown in London after June 21st.

The sun was warm, but the wind was chill.
You know how it is with an April day
When the sun is out and the wind is still,
You're one month on in the middle of May.
But if you so much as dare to speak,
A cloud comes over the sunlit arch,
A wind comes off a frozen peak,
And you're back two months in the middle of March.

From *A Further Range*, by Robert Frost.

THE PASSING BELL.

THE DUCHESS OF BEDFORD.

Those of us who knew her personally deeply deplore the tragic disappearance into space of the Duchess of Bedford—a very remarkable and lovable woman—who, if she had not been a Duchess, might have made a brilliant surgeon or nurse administrator. We first knew her during the Great War, when she invited our help in the organisation of her wonderful hospital for sick soldiers at Woburn. It was little advice she required, as she was an absolutely devoted nurse, working in the wards from early morning to late into the night with the rank and file with supreme devotion and instinctive skill based on scientific study of every detail.

The members of the British College of Nurses will remember her as one of their guests of honour at the Annual Dinner held at the Café Monico, in July, 1930, under the title of "The Gifted of the Gods," when some twenty-four persons of eminence in Art, Music, the Drama, Literature, and Science responded to the invitation of the Council of the College, and when the Duchess represented Aeronautics.

At our last meeting she spoke with enthusiasm of her love of aviation. "I am never so happy as when soaring towards the stars" she said. "In comparison, everything on earth is so constrained."

Almost prophetic words! We may be sure that if this valiant lady met her death in deep waters, her adventurous spirit soared to the stars.

MISS MARY S. RUNDLE, R.R.C.

There died on March 13th, 1937, at 33, St. John's Wood Road, N.W.8, Miss Mary Snell Rundle, R.R.C., D.N. (Leeds), first Secretary of the College of Nursing, London, deeply regretted by a large circle of friends.

She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and, as the first Isla Stewart Scholar, went to Teacher's College, Columbia, New York, for a year's course in hospital economics and teaching in schools of nursing. Upon her return to England she gained other experience and was appointed Matron of the Royal Chest Hospital. During the War for a year, 1915 to 1916, she was Matron of the 1st London General Hospital, T.A., but was allowed to apply for the Secretaryship of the newly founded College of Nursing, which position she held for many years.

Miss Rundle received the R.R.C. for her years' War work, the Diploma in Nursing of the Leeds University (*honoris causa*), and held various positions in connection with nursing organisations. She retired from work some few years ago owing to ill health, but continued her interest in her profession until her somewhat sudden death.

Her funeral, which took place on March 17th, was attended by those near and dear to her with whom she had worked for so many years.

MISS A. E. STEEN.

We regret to record the death, at Bexhill-on-Sea, on February 25th, 1937, of Miss A. E. M. Steen, late Sister, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, after a long and painful illness.

Miss Steen was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and was appointed Staff Nurse, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, January 16th, 1908, and promoted to Sister May 18th, 1917. She served at home and in Malta until July, 1920, when she retired from the Service owing to ill-health.

"My word, my work, my heart, my hand,
Still on a side together stand."

John Byron, 1692-1765.

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