

## WHAT TO READ.

## MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "Benjamin Franklin." Evarts S. Scudder.  
 "Elizabeth Woodville: Her Life and Times." David MacGibbon.  
 "Henri Quatre." Heinrich Mann.  
 "Mrs. Henry Sidgwick: A Memoir." Ethel Sidgwick.  
 "William Pitt, Earl of Chatham." Brian Tunstall.

## FICTION.

- "Not Peace but the Sword." Jane Oliver.  
 "Hercule Poirot's Christmas." Agatha Christie.  
 "The Sword of Islam." Rafael Sabatini.  
 "Plague Over London." Thurlow Craig.  
 "My Double Life." Mary Sullivan.  
 "Three Over the Frontier." Hans Habe.  
 "The Adventure of Christopher Columin." Silvia Thompson.  
 "The House of Quiet People." Brian Bulman.

## TRAVEL.

- "Lhasa, The Holy City." E. Spencer Chapman.  
 "Woman in Nazi Germany." Clifford Kirkpatrick.

## COMING EVENTS.

January 24th.—College of Nursing, Mass Meeting of Nurses, Great Hall, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 8.30 p.m. Films of general and nursing interest and some light music, 7.45 p.m.

Tickets obtainable from the College of Nursing, Henrietta Place, Cavendish Square, London, W.1.

January 27th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Monthly Meeting, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1.

February 11th.—Infectious Hospitals' Matrons' Association. Meeting of members, Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.1, 5 p.m. Annual Dinner, 7 p.m., followed by visit to a theatre. Tickets, 15s 6d. each, obtainable from the Hon. Secretary, Miss B. West, Isolation Hospital, Mays Lane, Barnet. It is hoped that many members will participate.

## KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

## Kind Greetings from Canada.

Sister M. Thecla, Chatham, Ontario, writes: "As we approach the nineteen hundred and thirty-eighth anniversary of the most beautiful event this troubled world of ours has ever known we cannot help but experience a warm feeling of gratitude that we here in Canada, Ontario in particular, are still (and God willing always will) appreciating its true significance.

"At the threshold of the New Year, I wish to extend my heartiest wishes to each member of the British College of Nurses that this will be the happiest Christmas they have ever experienced, but the least happy of those to follow."

## "A Modern Madonna and Child."

We have received several letters praising the picture of "A Modern Madonna and Child" which appeared in our November issue.

A Nurse Mother writes: "I have taken the B.J.N. since 'Nursing Record' days, and watched its struggle to rouse the nursing profession to a sense of responsibility; in my young days we were certainly made of sterner stuff. I loved the picture of 'A Modern Madonna and Child.' Australia is indeed happy to breed such beautiful humans. We have not forgotten the splendid physical standard of the 'Aussies' in the Great War."

## Things are Very Difficult.

Miss Flora Jones writes: "Times are very difficult for people of indifferent health who have only a small pension to depend on, and although Members of Parliament found they had to have an increase to cover the 'cost of living'

they have done nothing to prevent the cost rising for the people with small incomes. The chief thing about it is, all the nice things we used to do, in aiding the different Christian societies and hospital work, have had to be cut out. It may not have been much, but one always felt one was helping."

## History Perverted.

Fellow B.C.N. writes: "It has been said that the noblest function of the historian is the vindication of truth. For nothing do we owe you more gratitude than for the fact that you have recorded the true history of nursing in our official organ for the past half-century. The fact that your creative work is persistently and purposely ignored by persons in this country purporting to teach Nursing History is a grave injustice, not only to you, but to pupils who are misled. In two so-called 'Histories of Nursing' issued in recent years the College of Nursing is given the credit of procuring State Registration for Nurses, when its Bills were never introduced into the House of Commons at all and the registrationists not only promoted the first Bill for the Registration of Nurses, but worked and paid for the publicity of this professional demand for thirty years before the College of Nursing, many of the promoters of which were 'antis' was founded.

"Miss Hillyers in her lovely pageant on 'The History of Nursing' during the International Congress, 1937, earned the gratitude of many pioneers for her recognition of the truth.

"When we are settled in our new Headquarters, may I suggest we promote an active propaganda of Truth, so far as the progress of nursing in this country is concerned?"

[It is hoped to inaugurate several useful lines of work for the benefit of Nurses, in the future programme of the "B.C.N." when new Headquarters is in working order.—ED.]

## REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In reply to enquiries a Nursing Sub-Committee has been set up by the Co-ordinating Committee for Refugees, of which Miss G. V. Hillyers (Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital) is Chairman. It is reported that, by request of the Home Office, hospitals should take at least two refugee nurses per year to train as nurses over a period of four years.

What ultimate status these foreign nurses are to be given can, we suppose, be ascertained by enquiry at the office of the Nursing and Midwifery Committee for Refugees, 23, Gower Place, W.C.1, or to the Secretary for Home Affairs, who is, we believe, responsible for the request.

It is one of national importance to the Registered Nurses in this country.

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## NOTICE.

As THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is a monthly paper the Editor will be greatly obliged if items of news which the readers desire included are sent to her as early as possible, as they often arrive just after the JOURNAL has gone to press.

## PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR FEBRUARY.

State what you know of Cerebral Palsy. Describe causes and intelligent treatment of children suffering from it.

At this busy season of the year, we regret that we have received no Prize Competition Papers.

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