

**WHAT TO READ.**

**BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.**

- "The Admirals Hood." Dorothy Hood.
- "H. R. L. Sheppard." R. Ellis Roberts.
- "Khaki and Gown." Field-Marshal Lord Birdwood.

**FICTION.**

- "The Long Alert." Philip Gibbs.
- "All that Glitters." Frances Parkinson Keyes.
- "Black Squire." Horace Annesley Vachell.
- "The Aunt of England." Cosmo Hamilton.
- "The Traitor." John Owen.
- "River of Thought." Winifred Graham.
- "Beloved Country." Emmeline Morrison.
- "Boo." Peter de Polnay.
- "The Vulgar Speak." Wyndham Lewis.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

- "Scotland in Modern Times." Agnes Muir MacKenzie.
- "Trampled Lilies." Winifred Fortescue.
- "America in World Affairs." Allan Nevins.
- "Agriculture's Challenge to the Nation." Arthur Smith.
- "Chartist Portraits." G. D. H. Cole.
- "A Home that Was Loved." Katherine M. R. Kenyon.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING,  
19, QUEEN'S GATE, S.W.7.

DEAR MADAM,—Thank you very much for sending me a copy of the issue of your Journal containing the review of our Annual Report. Such an excellent and detailed notice will be of real value to us and we are deeply grateful to you for your generous co-operation.

Yours very truly,

J. DE LA MARE ROWLEY,  
General Editor.

**CLUB FOR ARMY NURSES.**

MOUNT LAWLEY,  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—I read in one of THE BRITISH JOURNALS OF NURSING that your tea and sugar ration at the College was rather severe, so I ordered a small packet to be sent to you; it seemed a very meagre parcel, but we are only permitted to send up to 5 lb. I well remember the afternoon teas I enjoyed at Portland Place of which I brought back to Australia many happy memories, so hope my tea and sugar may be used at one of them. . . .

The Returned Army Nurses' Club is now interesting itself in a hostel for the nurses who are now serving overseas. During the last war we had a home to go to in Perth, for rest and convalescence; eventually the Home was sold, and £3,000 invested. . . . This money cannot now be allocated for building purposes, but the Lord Mayor of Perth recently called a meeting and a most enthusiastic gathering agreed to found a Hostel, and this time it is hoped to keep the home going for all time. . . . More or less it will be self-supporting after initial expenses have been paid. Hospitality will be given free for a week to nurses returning from the Front, and after that, if they are military patients

convalescing, the authorities will pay all charges as they did in the last war. . . . We are hoping to get a suitable house within a few minutes' walk of the city. . . .

Our thoughts are always with you in these very troubled days in Great Britain. How wonderful you all are. . . . Here everything is so peaceful—no restrictions on food, and plenty of it. I hope your Christmas and New Year will be free from air raids, and that peace will soon come over the world. With kindest regards to you all.

Yours sincerely,

MAY ASHTON.

[This kind letter was dated September 22, 1941. Alas! quite recently Australia has come within the war zone owing to the Japanese attacks in the Pacific, but we all realise that this great people will smash the treacherous enemy should they come to close quarters. "Ansac" stands for the finest qualities in warfare, and no twaddle. "War is war" where these splendid troops are concerned, and the Empire owes them undying debts of gratitude.—Ed.]

**CLATTER-CUM-BANG.**

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—My nurse lends me her B.J.N., and much I enjoy it. Glad you drew our attention to "Hospital Nurse." In your editorial remarks you alluded to the value of "serenity," an old-fashioned virtue, in a nurses' equipment. I am an old nerve case long laid by, and have suffered much in a succession of nurses from "clatter-cum-bang," not surprising perhaps in this vulgar, noisy age. My present nurse is indeed a gem in this particular—she knows how to shut and open a door, how to step across a room without shaking the foundations of the house, how to tidy the dressing-table without clatter, and how to make up the fire without fireworks.

I note there are now Sister Tutors in Nurse Training Schools, may I plead that they deliver a lecture to each class on "Clatter-cum-bang and how to avoid it." It might save torture to nerve cases whose sufferings are real. Serenity in the ward and in the sick-room should be enforced.

G. T. C.

**KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.**

*Old Nurse who Enjoys Stories:* "Please, more 'Miniatures.' I also love the poems signed A. M. M. and by Mrs. Trevelyan Thompson."

*A Border Nurse writes:* "How is it that Scottish nurses seem to have so much more common-sense than we have South of the Border? Here no one realises what a Registered Nurse signifies, but working men in Scotland know quite well and the nurse's position is much respected. One thing, of course, is understood—status has a financial value, and that being so, and having worked and paid for it, they will not be bamboozled by 'control' or association with the semi-trained."

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**PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR FEBRUARY.**

Describe the clinical features of a case of Diphtheria. How would you expect such a case to be treated?

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