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Editorial.

OUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

As year after year passes by, and we once more pen our Christmas greetings to our readers near and far, nothing is more evident than the constant enlargement of the circle to be included in these greetings. We offer them thus early, because as the Official Organ of the International Council of Nurses, we desire that they should reach those who are united by this common bond of fellowship, as well as many others. Whether the Journal finds them in the busy hospital wards of this great metropolis, in other hospitals throughout the kingdom, working in connection with our Government services, as private nurses of the well-to-do, in the homes of the poor, in busy centres of industry or in lonely outposts, to one and all it carries our Christmas greeting. Outside the United Kingdom it will speed on its way to the friends whom we remember with such warm regard who helped to make the Conference of the International Council of Nurses in Paris this year such a splendid success—the officials of the Assistance Publique, Mme. Alphen Salvador, Miss Chaptal, Dr. Anna Hamilton and Miss Elston. To Sister Karl and her brave band of workers in the German Nurses' Association, to Baroness Mannerheim and the Association of Nurses in gallant little Finland, to our Danish and Dutch sisters, and to all who, like Miss Turton and Miss Baxter in Italy, are working single handed, to raise nursing standards.

And once more to our dear friends in the United States of America, who afford to nurses throughout the world such a splendid example of professional solidarity and loyalty to leaders, we offer our warmest greetings.

Mrs. Hampton Robb, Miss L. L. Dock, Miss M. A. Nutting, Miss Sophia Palmer, Miss Maxwell, and Miss Geneviève Cooke stand out from the foremost ranks of American nurses, as those who by their hard work for the public good, their courage, and their brilliant capacity are had in honour of trained nurses wherever their work is known. The Society of American Superintendents, and the Nurses' National Associated Alumnae have a special place in our interest and our regard, and we send them all good wishes at this season.

To our friends in Canada, the Journal also speeds bearing its message of goodwill, amongst whom must specially be mentioned Miss Snively and Dr. MacMurchy.

It also bears our greetings to our readers in India, Ceylon, New Zealand, Tasmania, and Australasia, and last, but not least to those nurses bravely working under tropical suns, in the heart and on the coast of the Great Continent of Africa, as well as to those whose duty is performed under less strenuous conditions in the north and south of this fascinating and little known continent.

One word we should like to send, did we know how it is to reach them, to those who will, on Christmas Day, be incarcerated in the prisons throughout the country. We hope that even through prison walls some rays of the light and sweetness of Christmas may penetrate, and that the shadow on their lives may be lifted for at least this one day. Perhaps before another Christmas comes trained nurses may be taking an active part in promoting the more rational treatment of prisoners.

Wherever they may be working the message of Christmas is the same, one of peace and goodwill and of friendly greeting.

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