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## Editorial.

### A WORLD LAMENTS.

The sorrow which has so suddenly overwhelmed the nation by the passing of its King intimately touches the nursing profession, for his statesmanlike breadth of view and clear insight enabled King Edward VII. to understand how important a place trained nursing is assigned in the healing art, and in his public utterances in relation to nursing he always gave practical proof of his appreciation of the value of the work of nurses to the community. Trained nurses had frequently reason to be thankful to His Majesty for the high honour in which he held their profession, and they can bring no better tribute to his memory than their gratitude for the dignity with which he always invested it.

For instance, in July, 1908, His Majesty publicly stated: "It has now, happily, long been recognised that in the alleviation of pain and sickness good nursing is of supreme importance, and that it is in the interests of the community that measures should be taken to obtain skilled and efficient nurses in increased numbers and to procure for them such advantages and prospects as will retain them in their profession."

When Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, attended the Jubilee Congress of District Nursing at Liverpool last year it was announced that the King had intimated to her Royal Highness that he highly approved of her coming to Liverpool for that purpose, and hoped the Congress would result in very much good to the cause of District Nursing.

Again, when King Edward presented the colours to the Territorial Force at Windsor Castle last year the Matrons of the Nursing Service connected with it were honoured by

the Royal command to be present; and when the International Council of Nurses met in London in July last it was announced by the President from the platform that the Lord Chamberlain desired that the Congress should be informed of the special interest taken by the King in the visit of its members to Windsor Castle during the Congress week. The King wrote himself from Biarritz instructing that special facilities should be granted on this occasion, and His Majesty specially singled out the delegates of the Canadian National Council by permitting them to place a wreath upon the tomb of the late Queen Victoria in the mausoleum at Frogmore, bearing an inscription expressing their loyalty and devotion to the Crown.

In October last the King, when laying the foundation-stone of a new block at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, said, in the course of his reply to an address from the Governing Body: "The encouragement which you give to your nurses to join the Nursing Service of the Territorial Force meets with my most cordial approval. In matters of life and death the services of the trained nurse are no less essential than those of the physician or surgeon." And during his last visit to Biarritz King Edward visited the Nursing Home which he founded there, and warmly congratulated the nursing staff on the valuable services which they have rendered to the British colony in Biarritz.

There are no more loyal subjects of the Crown than the trained nurses of the realm. They participate in the universal sorrow, and they profoundly sympathise in her bereavement with the gracious Queen who has endeared herself to the whole British people. To King George and his Consort, at this sorrowful time, they offer their loyal and respectful sympathy.

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