

parcels for prisoners in Germany. We can trust the very kind-hearted President, Miss Elma Smith, to remember their sore needs.

We are glad to note that in the 137th annual report of the General Hospital, Birmingham, the Board expresses its thanks to the Nursing Staff as a whole for their devoted services to the Hospital during the strenuous year, and in particular to those Sisters who have, at personal sacrifice, remained at their posts since the outbreak of war.

By the generosity of private donors a fund has been created for the award of a Gold Medal to the Nurse who does best in the Annual Examinations.

It is also reported that the scheme under which certain out-patients receive the help of Nurses at or near their homes is still being continued successfully by arrangement with the District Nursing Society. This scheme materially assists in relieving the work of the Out-patient Department.

Saskatchewan is reported busy with its Registration Bill, with hopes of passing it this session. Good luck to it.

### SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Friday, the 23rd March, was the last day on which Petitions for or against the granting of a Supplemental Charter to the Royal British Nurses' Association could be delivered at the Privy Council Office. We learn that several of the organized nurses' societies, amongst them the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, presented Petitions—not against the Amalgamation of the R.B.N.A. and the College of Nursing, Ltd., but against the deprivation of trained nurses of their Professional Association as granted to them in the original Charter, as the Supplemental Charter makes the laity eligible for membership without financial responsibility, thus entirely altering the professional standing of the organization. Moreover the proposed Bye-Laws deprive the nurse members of safeguards to personal liberty and certain privileges, and would establish an educational and disciplinary monopoly over the nurses of the United Kingdom, the resistance to which, should it be effected, would arouse an economic war of a very determined character.

The present Charter provides for amalgamation if this is really the aim of the R.B.N.A. and College of Nursing, Ltd.

### WHERE DO WE COME IN?

We are now constantly having heartening news flashed from Canada. The part the great Dominion has played in this War is a stupendously patriotic one, and its women are not being neglected. From Toronto came the news on the 25th inst. that the Nova Scotia Legislature had unanimously passed the second reading of the Bill to enfranchise women and to allow them to practise law.

Under a new and enlightened Government women are to vote for the Constituent Assembly in Russia. With such radical changes women's suffrage comes as a matter of course!

How about "this land of the free"? As we go to press the long expected debate on Electoral Reform is taking place in the House of Commons. Mr. Asquith will introduce the subject, calling for the prompt introduction of legislation on the lines of the resolutions reported from the Conference, amongst which was one providing for a form of women's suffrage. It is reported that Mr. Salter, with the sympathy of a considerable body of Unionist opinion, will move an amendment confining the demand to an immediate register, and the provision of means of voting for those electors who are absent on naval and military service, thus obstructing once again any measure of justice for women! Not even this revolutionary War—for every day it is sweeping away a multitude of bogies—can enlighten those politicians who are devoid of antennæ. We shall get the vote in spite of them.

Of course women cannot "down tools" during the War, but that would settle the question in a few hours' time.

### INTO BATTLE.

The naked earth is warm with Spring,  
 And with green grass and bursting trees  
 Leans to the sun's gaze glorying,  
 And quivers in the sunny breeze;  
 And Life is Colour and Warmth and Light,  
 And a striving evermore for these;  
 And he is dead who will not fight;  
 And who dies fighting has increase.  
 The fighting man shall from the sun  
 Take warmth, and life from the glowing earth;  
 Speed with the light-foot winds to run,  
 And with the trees to newer birth;  
 And find, when fighting shall be done,  
 Great rest and fulness after dearth.

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The thundering line of battle stands,  
 And in the air Death moans and sings;  
 But Day shall clasp him with strong hands,  
 And Night shall fold him in soft wings.

—Julian Grenfell.

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