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## EDITORIAL.

### THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE TO THE WOMEN OF THE EMPIRE.

The Queen has addressed the following message to the women of the Empire:

“Buckingham Palace.

“A few months ago, at the height of our anxiety and strain, I sent a message in the name of the women of our lands to our men fighting for us across the seas. Now, in an hour of thankfulness and hope, I should like to give a message to the women of the Empire. During the war they have been given the high privilege of service, they have risen to the great opportunity, and have proved their courage, steadfastness and ability.

“I have been allowed to watch and appreciate their work in many parts of the country, and my heart is full of admiration and gratitude for what I have seen. I earnestly trust that, though the thrill and glamour of war are over, the spirit of self-sacrifice and helpfulness which it has kindled will not wane in the coming days. A new era is dawning upon the world, bringing with it many difficulties, fresh responsibilities, and serious problems to be faced.

“Parliament has secured for the whole country greater opportunities of more thorough and varied education, but it will depend upon the parents whether these opportunities are used to the full. We all rejoice that plans are afoot for bringing to an end the existence of such bad and crowded housing as makes home-life almost impossible.

“To-day, more than ever, the Empire needs her daughters, for in the larger world of public and industrial work women are daily taking a more important place. As we have been united in all our work, whether of head or hands, in a real sisterhood of suffering and service during the

war, let us go on working together with the same unity of purpose for the resettlement and reconstruction of our country.

“MARY R.”

Her Majesty's message, which will be gratefully received by every woman who has striven to do her duty during the four years of war, reminds us of the fresh responsibilities which we shall have to face.

For the great gift of citizenship, which is the Christmas gift to the women of the Nation this year, places upon them, for the first time, the deep responsibility of helping to fashion the destinies of the Empire at a time when the direction of its policy is a matter of more vital importance than ever before in the national history.

As the Prime Minister reminded us at the great meeting at the Queen's Hall, on Monday, it is the duty of every woman who possesses a vote to record it at the polling booths on December 14th. Especially he reminded his audience of the great social programme of the Government which commanded general acceptance. If women rose to their responsibilities the whole of their sex would be lifted to a higher level of well being, and they would be able to exercise a sacred trust for the advancement of the race.

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

The Christmas greetings of the Nursing Profession go forth with this issue to the Men of the Navy, Army and Air Service—the men who have saved the Empire and in conjunction with our Allies have delivered the world from militarism. To the Prisoners of War returned to this country our heartfelt thanks go out. May they spend the happiest Christmas they have ever known.

And to every Nurse striving to maintain the high ideals of her profession we heartily wish Christmas joy.

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