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EDITED BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, REGISTERED NURSE.

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## EDITORIAL.

### GOD SAVE THE KING.

The serious illness of the King has caused anxiety and distress throughout the Empire, and thousands upon thousands of his subjects eagerly scan the daily Bulletins for the latest news of His Majesty's condition.

During the most fateful reign in the history of the Empire, the King has shown himself the true Father of his people in times of anxiety and sorrow, as well as of joy, and their response has been loyalty, gratitude, and a deep and true affection, which makes their King's illness seem to them a personal matter, for he is enthroned in the hearts of his people, and while, during the last ten years, thrones have crashed, and dynasties crumbled, that of the British Empire is revered even beyond its utmost bounds.

It is not now the custom for the King of these Realms to lead his armies in battle, but, in the Great War, King George V very really led them in the spirit, and by his visits to the troops on active service, and to the sick and wounded in hospitals at home and abroad, he materially helped to maintain at its highest level that morale so essential to victory, and in the years of peace His Majesty has shown a deep personal interest in all that concerns the social welfare of his people.

It has been the privilege of the trained nurses of this country to be brought into contact with both the King and Queen in the discharge of their duties, and the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, held in London on November 30th, afforded a fitting opportunity for sending an expression of their loyalty, and concern, for his recovery, to His Majesty.

The following is the letter, sent by direction of the meeting:—

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

39, Portland Place,  
London, W.1.

3rd December, 1928.

To:

Lieut.-Colonel The Right Honourable Lord  
Stamfordham, G.C.B., G.C.I.E.

SIR,—At the Annual Meeting of the Grand Council of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, of which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick is President, held at 11,

Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W., on the evening of November 30th, the Chairman of the Meeting, Miss Margaret Breay, before it commenced, referred to the shadow of national anxiety under which it met, from the illness of His Majesty the King, with whom many of those present had come into personal contact in the discharge of their official duties, and by whom they had been personally decorated.

The Council desired that an expression of their loyal devotion should be sent from the Meeting to His Majesty, together with the earnest hope that he would speedily recover from his present illness to rule for many years over the subjects throughout the Empire by whom he is beloved, for the gracious wisdom and kindness which have characterised his reign.

On behalf of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, I beg to convey to you this expression of loyalty and devotion to His Majesty's person and Throne.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HELEN L. PEARSE,

*Hon. Secretary.*

The following is the acknowledgment, which will be placed among the archives of the Council:—

BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

3rd December, 1928.

DEAR MADAM,—The Queen is as much touched as I know the King will be at the expression of devotion and good wishes for a speedy recovery for His Majesty, which you have been good enough to send on behalf of the President and members of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, and I am commanded to thank them for their message.

Yours very truly,

CLIVE WIGRAM.

*The Hon. Secretary,*

*The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.*

The hearts of all nurses will be instinct with sympathy for the Queen in her anxiety. Only in our last issue we published a letter of tender sympathy from Her Majesty to the Women of the Empire, which must have brought consolation to many. Now, we may hope that the knowledge of their love and loyalty will be to her some comfort and support in her vigil by the sick bed of one so precious, and in her discharge of the high duties of State which, in the midst of her personal anxieties, she is called upon to discharge. May her anxiety soon be relieved by the uninterrupted progress to recovery of His Majesty the King is the Empire's prayer.

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