

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE NURSING RECORD

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No. 1,937. Vol. 77

DECEMBER, 1929.

Price Sevenpence

EDITORIAL.

TWO CHRISTMASES.

The love of home and kindred of the British people who have a special genius for home making, is traditional, and from near and far their thoughts turn at Christmas-tide to the old homestead, be it palace or cot. If possible, they return for this happy season, and, if not, loving messages and greetings find their way there from Overseas and elsewhere.

Every home in this country will be the happier that this year at Sandringham House, the beloved home of His Majesty the King, as of his parents before him, the King and Queen will hold high festival, surrounded by their children and grand-children, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law, and in many a home loyal toasts will be proposed for the health, happiness and longevity of our Sovereign Lord the King and his gracious Consort.

CHRISTMAS, 1928.

For uppermost in the minds of all must be memories of that other Christmas a year ago when their King lay stricken with pain and weakness within his palace gates, when the Queen, except to fulfil with high courage her duties as a member of the Council of State, appointed to act for His Majesty, or at public functions, rarely left his bedside, when grave doctors and skilful nurses combined in their efforts to save a life so precious.

As the shadows deepened, high and low, rich and poor, when bulletins were posted on the Palace gates, drew

near together, inspired by a common sorrow, a common fear, and a common hope.

Thank God the star of hope glowed ever brighter and brighter, till one glorious day the King, still pale and worn and bearing plainly the impress of past suffering, but on the high road to recovery, appeared amongst his people, whose joy and affection were unmistakably demonstrated.

CHRISTMAS, 1929.

Throughout the Empire we are sure that thankfulness will be uppermost in all hearts as we keep our "Merrie Christmas," that our King is restored to the People whom he has ruled so wisely and so well, and to whom he has endeared himself by so many acts of kindness. British people may not be demonstrative, but they are loyal to the heart's core, and in many a home deep and true will be the aspiration, "God Save the King."

It is the habit of the British people to give their Kings and sometimes their Princes, a descriptive title, such as Richard Cœur de Lion and Edward the Peacemaker.

Probably no Monarch of these Realms has come so closely into touch with his People as the present King for throughout the years of the Great War it

was His Majesty's practice, frequently accompanied by the Queen, to visit the sick and wounded in hospitals at home, and also at personal risk he crossed the Channel to inspect and encourage the Army in France. The Nation responded with appreciation and affection, and because of these and many other gracious actions, the title bestowed on King George V. is "George the Well-beloved." A better could not be chosen.



HIS GRACIOUS MAJESTY KING GEORGE V
All the World wishes Him a Happy Christmas.

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