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EDITORIAL.

"Human feeling is still the most potent of all forces affecting world affairs."

The King and Queen have had a joyous welcome home to the capital of the Empire after venturing forth on the most momentous journey ever undertaken by the Sovereigns of these realms, and we use the word home in spite of the Crown having glistened over "my Realm of Canada" for a short space of time.

After all, a thousand years is no mean span of time, and London is, and long may it remain, the throbbing heart of the Empire. It was just and right, therefore, that the feeling of pride, loyalty and affection should have been given expression at Guildhall by My Lord Mayor and Corporation, and the citizens of London, at the first possible moment after their Majesties' return.

We nurses know something of the pageantry and magnificent ceremonial at Guildhall, when pomp and State, glittering golden plate, the celebrated armorial porcelain, the scent of exquisite flowers, the City's regimental colours and banners of the Guilds bedeck the walls and the evidence of centuries of splendour is apparent.

The welcome to King and Queen was vibrant. With joyous pride, the Lord Mayor, in an uplifting speech, gave the Toast of "Their Majesties the King and Queen," which was honoured with fervour, the company joining in when the band played the National Anthem.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

"Over all nations is humanity."

What we Registered Nurses (no mean people as a bodyguard of national health) find most interesting in the moving reply of the King, much of which we working folk may take to heart, is his reference to humanity. His Majesty opened his speech with an expression of thanks. He then referred to the splendid welcome in Canada and the United States, and linked it with the welcome re-echoed "in the land which to us, as to so many of our kindred overseas, will always be home."

Speaking of the impressions of the journey which remained in his mind, the King said:—

"The first, and deepest, is that, even in this age of machines and mass-production, the strength of human feeling is still the most potent of all the forces affecting world affairs. 'Over all nations'—as a North American historian has written—'over all nations is humanity.' In no part of the world, perhaps, is that truth more evident than in the continent from which I have

just returned. Within its geographical limits live men of almost every race, of many creeds, of divers political faiths; yet first and foremost they are human beings—over them all is humanity.

"I found inspiration, too, in the realisation that we in these islands have made a helpful contribution to the gradual weaving of that fabric of humanity. That is evident, of course, from the pages of history; but which of us has not found that history, and geography, too, never really live for us until we travel? I was deeply impressed, for example, to find our great political testament, Magna Carta, an object of keen public interest in the World's Fair at New York, and at every turn of my long journey it was constantly brought home to me how closely interwoven are the threads of our own story with those of the development of that newer continent across the sea.

BRITISH FAITH IN LIBERTY AND JUSTICE.

"So it was with me. In Canada, I saw everywhere not only the mere symbol of the British Crown; I saw also, flourishing as strongly as they do here, the institutions which have developed, century after century, beneath the ægis of that Crown; institutions, British in origin, British in their slow and almost casual growth, which, because they are grounded root and branch on British faith in liberty and justice, mean more to us even than the splendour of our history or the glories of our English tongue.

"To see them thus vigorous on Canadian soil could not but be a source of pride to me; and I counted it a high privilege to be the first of my line to play some personal part in giving them practical effect. In person I presided over the Canadian Parliament at Ottawa, and assented to legislation.

RIGHTS OF FREE CITIZENSHIP.

"And, even in the loyal enthusiasm shown to the Queen and myself by hundreds of thousands of my Canadian subjects, young and old, I thought I detected, too, the influence of those institutions. For it was not alone the actual presence of their King and Queen that made them open their hearts to us; their welcome, it seemed to me, was also an expression of their thankfulness for those rights of free citizenship which are the heritage of every member of our great Commonwealth of Nations.

"It was the desire to serve the ideals of that Commonwealth which led me to undertake my journey; to foster its sane and wholesome faith; to show, if I could, that its headship, which I have been called upon to assume, exists to-day as a potent force for promoting

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