

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

A Warm Welcome Awaits Them.

The President of the French Republic and Mme. Lebrun have accepted the invitation of His Majesty the King to pay a State visit to this country from Tuesday, March 21st, to Friday, March 24th. These two delightful people will be warmly welcomed in England.

For Gallantry.

It was announced in the *London Gazette* that the King had been pleased to approve the posthumous award of the Medal of the Civil Division of the Order of the British Empire, for Gallantry, to the late Mr. Edward Letch and Mr. James Letch.

Mr. Edward Letch and Mr. James Letch, both of 20, Dunholme Road, Edmonton, endeavoured, with great courage, to rescue a pilot of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve who crashed at Edmonton on September 4th last. They were both burnt to death in the attempt.

Women Lose a Sincere Friend.

Women have lost one of their most devoted friends in the House of Commons by the death of Major John Walter Hills, Conservative Member for the Ripon division of Yorkshire.

Major Hills was one of the most diligent back benchers in the House. Measures of social reform, and particularly woman's struggle for sex equality, found in him an earnest champion. In 1918 he secured the passing of the Sex Disqualification Removal Act, and his activities also led to measures which gave to women university degrees and entry into the legal profession. He was chairman of a Royal Commission on women's employment.

We who knew him deeply deplore his loss and will remember his services with sincere gratitude.

Food Production by Women.

The Women's Farm and Garden Association, Courtauld House, Byng Place, Torrington Square, W.C.1, is inviting women who are able to work on the land in any capacity to volunteer for work on food production in time of national emergency. The association has opened a register of those who are willing to be trained, have trained, or would give training. Those who cannot now give their full time are asked to train in their holidays so as to be ready. Women would be needed as tractor drivers as well as for work with farm-stock, dairywork, poultry, and gardening. Applications should be sent to the secretary.

Memorial Window to the Duchess of Bedford.

A memorial window to the much loved Duchess of Bedford, who flying single-handed was lost at sea, was recently unveiled in Woburn Church. The window depicts St. Francis and the birds for which she shared his sympathy.

Terrible Death Record.

The worst road accident figures for any month in the year are disclosed by the returns for November prepared by the leading industrial assurance offices. As many as 500 members of the wage-earning classes, compared with a monthly average of just under 400, met their deaths as the result of fatal traffic accidents during the month. The families of the victims have received over £15,800 under industrial assurance policies.

Considering the lack of effective control on streets and roads we cannot expect any other result, and so long as

the victims are of no social significance apparently these deaths are to be taken as a matter of course.

William and Mary College in Virginia.

Mr. J. E. Morpurgo, William and Mary Research Assistant in England, appealing in *The Times* for support for the collection of material in England in connection with the William and Mary College in Virginia, gives an interesting account of this Royal Foundation which, founded in 1693, is, he says, of particular interest to Englishmen because of its close associations with the home country from 1693-1783.

The main college building is reputed to have been designed by Christopher Wren. The Yorkshire estates of Robert Boyle, the famous physicist, were willed to the college towards educating the Indians. Early chancellors of the college included Archbishops of Canterbury and Bishops of London. Most of the early presidents and professors of the college were Englishmen or Scotsmen, and graduates of British universities. It is thought, therefore, that there must be in various parts of England a great deal of material relative to the early years of the college in the form of letters, family papers, wills or diaries.

Mr. Morpurgo who is at present engaged in collecting such material whether it deals directly with College history, or with the life of the Virginian Colony in the early days of the College, will be grateful for help in this connection, addressed to him at Woodway, Norrrys Road, Cockfosters, Herts.

Cod Liver Oil for Spain.

The first Humber food ship, S.S. *Ragnhild*, taking supplies from the people of Yorkshire to refugees in Spain, included in her cargo 30 (thirty) tons, or about 7,500 (seven thousand five hundred) gallons of cod liver oil, representing one-fifth of the total value of the cargo. The cod liver oil was supplied at cost price by the Hull trawler owners, who state that they are prepared to supply practically unlimited quantities on the same terms for relief work or refugees in any country.

The Dear Animals.

Naturally the Ox and the Ass have reminded us during the representations of the Nativity of their endearing qualities. They took a prominent place at the dedication of the barn which was erected in the historic Chapel of St. Stephen in Canterbury Cathedral on Christmas Eve, by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

WORD FOR THE MONTH.

When I bring you coloured toys, my child, I understand why there is such a play of colours on clouds, on water, and why flowers are painted in tints—when I give you coloured toys, my child.

When I sing to make you dance I truly know why there is music in leaves, and why waves send their chorus of voices to the heart of the listening earth—when I sing to make you dance.

When I bring sweet things to your greedy hands I know why there is honey in the cup of the flower and why fruits are secretly filled with sweet juice—when I bring sweet things to your greedy hands.

When I kiss your face to make you smile, my darling, I surely understand what the pleasure is that streams from sky in morning light, and what delight that is which the summer breeze brings to my body—when I kiss you to make you smile.

Translated from the original Bengali by the author.

RABINDRANATH TAGORE (*Gitangali*).

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