

"GOD'S CHIVALRY."

As we anticipated in our last issue, Russia, an implacable enemy of free Finland, attacked that little country of very brave and patriotic people on December 1st, by land, sea and air. Helsinki, the capital, and other towns were bombed, and the people massacred indiscriminately.

Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Finland have now been devastated for the time being by German and Russian barbarians; the ruthless murder of the splendid young students at Prague was a heart-rending sacrifice.

We are not surprised to learn that the Crowned Heads in the Scandinavian countries are somewhat perturbed. If there is one symbol which is anathema to Stalin, it is the insignia of sovereignty. All the Kings of the earth should by now be united in "God's Chivalry," side by side with our valiant Knight, King George VI, prepared to fight to the death, with their peoples, for moral integrity.

WHAT TO READ.**MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.**

"The Lady of Marlborough House" (Life of H.M. Queen Mary.) Kathleen Woodward.

"Christopher Columbus." De Madanaga.

"Facts and Features of My Life." Sir George Franckenstein.

"Portrait of a Painter: The Authorised Life of Philip de Laszlo." Owen Rutter.

"Without End." Clare Sheridan.

"Half Breed: The Story of Grey Owl." Lovat Dickson.

FICTION.

"The Circle in the Water." Marjorie Bowen.

"All the To-morrows." Naomi Babson.

"Nanking Road." Vicki Baum.

"The Blaze of Noon." Rayner Heppenstall.

"In the Teeth of the Evidence." Sayers.

"Let the People Sing." Priestley.

"All Fires Go Out." Winifred Graham.

"The Best Short Stories of 1939." Ed. by E. J. O'Brien.

COMING EVENTS.

December 23rd.—State Registration of Nurses' Day, (Le Roy le Veult).

December 25th.—Christmas Day.

1940.

January 1st.—New Year's Day.

A WORD FOR THE MONTH.**Speech by Disraeli.**

"There is no country so interested in the maintenance of peace as England. Peace is especially an English policy. She is not an aggressive Power, for there is nothing which she desires. She covets no cities and no provinces. What she wishes is to maintain and to enjoy the unexampled Empire which she has built up, and which it is her pride to remember exists as much upon sympathy as upon force. But although the policy of England is peace, there is no country so well prepared for war as our own. If she enters into conflict in a righteous cause—and I will not believe that England will go to war except for a righteous cause—if the contest is one which concerns her liberty, her independence, or her Empire, her resources, I feel, are inexhaustible. She is not a country that, when she enters into a campaign, has to ask herself whether she can support a second or a third campaign. She enters into a campaign which she will not terminate till right is done."

As Prime Minister, at Guildhall, 1876.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

The Editor wishes to thank many colleagues and other friends at home and abroad, and from the Dominions, for the very kind and appreciative letters received in reference to the death of Dr. Bedford Fenwick, which will be added to those already filed for preservation in the History of Nursing Section of the British College of Nurses.

Miss Jane C. Cowie, writing from Cardonald, near Glasgow, "to express my own sense of loss, and my gratitude for Dr. Bedford Fenwick's great work for Nurses," says: "One cannot but feel that he still exerts an influence on behalf of our profession. There are times when the dead are nearer than the living. As you well say, the best memorial is to support the organisations to which he devoted his valuable time and great abilities. I enclose a cheque . . . please use it, in his memory, where most needed. . . . In loving sympathy and gratitude."

[This gift has been specially receipted and will, we hope, be the foundation of a fund to be organised in the future, in support of the half-century's work for the uplift of the Nursing Profession, for the benefit of the community.—ED.]

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.**Fighting Forces Despitefully Treated.**

S. R. N. writes: "It has not taken long now we are at war to bring the Registered Nurses down with a rattle. I am supposed to take my directions from a V.A.D., and numbers of us are controlled by lay untrained Commandants. The day of reckoning will come after the war. The pity is that the 'dictators' who have deprived us of our legal title and professional status are not the sufferers; it is the Fighting Forces who are being so despitefully treated."

Shade of Nightingale.

An Old Nightingale writes: "I was amazed to hear on the wireless that St. Thomas's is employing so-called nurses who are not trained or in training in the Nightingale School. Surely, if standards are to be upheld, the Nightingale Training School should take the lead."

Fellow B.C.N. writes: "The day of reckoning is upon us. Had we joined the B.C.N. in thousands, as we should have done, in spite of official opposition, we could have brought the Government to reason. Any way, I am thankful to note we are supporting the demand of those groups who are instructing the Minister of Health that competition with the untrained and consequent starvation is not a pleasant or justifiable process."

Nurse with Forty Years' Hard Work behind Her: "I haven't had a square meal for weeks."

S. R. N.: "After years of independence, it isn't pleasant dodging from one relation to another for a few weeks' shelter. Sorry to see report of death from gas poisoning of a nurse in bungalow—how about 'Old Man River'?"

American Nurse in London: "Somehow I feel a defaulter."

THE PRIZE COMPETITION.

We regret that no Prize Paper of sufficient merit has been received for publication.

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR JANUARY, 1940.

For what purpose may Enemas be given? Give an example of each kind.

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