

## WHAT TO READ.

## MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

"Allenby: A Study in Greatness." Gen. Sir Archibald Wavell, K.C.B., G.M.G., M.C.

"Roger Fry." Virginia Woolf.

"Rousseau and Burke." A Study of the Idea of Liberty in Eighteenth-Century Political Thought. Anne Marion Osborn.

"She Made World Chaos." (The Truth about the Kaiser's Mother.) E. E. P. Tisdall.

## FICTION.

"Night in Bombay." Louis Bromfield.

"Now Pray We for Our Country." Eric Knight

"Lady with Jade." Margaret Mackay.

"Three Sisters." Cornelia Spencer.

"Moment in Peking." Lin Yutang.

"The Christine Diamond." Mrs. Belloc Lowndes.

## TRAVEL.

"Mr. Finchley Takes the Road." Victor Canning.

## 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.*

## A JUSTIFIABLE PLEA.

The Nurses' Home,  
Royal Infirmary,  
Edinburgh.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,

The average nurse does not consider her training complete until she has taken her Midwifery course, but since the time of training has been increased there are many who have to give it serious thought. One whole year added to four years' General Training is indeed quite a proposition.

Since the war commenced there has been a growing feeling amongst the nurses with whom I work that one year's midwifery training is too long, and includes much time spent in cleaning, dusting, etc., at which, after four years' general training, we are quite adept.

We feel that when the country is in such urgent need of trained nurses it is unnecessary to have such numbers pinned down to another year of training, when six months in the past has proved quite adequate.

The Government have it in their power to utilise Labour to the greatest advantage, and this includes the nursing profession, so why have trained nurses labouring an extra six months when they could be used for a much better purpose.

Yours faithfully,  
MAY A. RITCHIE.

[We have from time to time received letters from experienced midwifery trainers expressing the views of Miss Ritchie. We can but urge that on all public bodies responsible for the training and control of Registered Nurses and Midwives, representatives of these professions should be available, beginning with the House of Commons, the Ministry of Health and the Midwives Board. During the debates in the Commons on the passing of the new Midwives Act, which was in the charge of a layman, it was quite evident he knew little of the training or status of Midwives or Nurses. In consequence, the new Act permits Midwives to assume the responsibilities of Registered Nurses, but with the exception of the British College of Nurses, no professional organisation made a protest, and

until members of both professions realise their professional responsibilities, their rights and privileges, public and professional, will be ignored.—ED.]

## A HOUSE OF HOPE—ST. DUNSTAN'S.

FOR BLINDED SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN OF THE  
BRITISH EMPIRE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,

Thank you very much indeed for printing my appeal in the recent issue of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. I am grateful for this and for your sympathetic editorial comment. You will be glad to know that the appeal is being most generously supported throughout the country.

Yours sincerely,

IAN FRASER,  
Chairman.

[We feel sure every subscriber to this journal will rejoice to know that this wonderful work is receiving the support it deserves. We have had the pleasure of forwarding an anonymous gift of £10 from an ever generous Registered Nurse.—ED.]

## HELP FOR THE WOUNDED.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—It is essential that our wounded, who are being nursed in hundreds of hospitals and convalescent homes in town and country should be well supplied with fresh vegetables, salads and fruit. Such illnesses as trench mouth can be prevented, and more rapid recovery achieved from fractures, wounds and war neuroses on a diet containing these restorative foods, a considerable amount of which should be served uncooked.

We are well aware that in many districts a great deal is being done. What is needed, however, is an organised, comprehensive and regular supply of fresh garden and allotment produce. If those who are now growing a surplus would assign a proportion to the nearest hospital or convalescent home, this would be invaluable. These institutions would welcome a free supply of food, which would assist them to bring the diet in line with modern scientific knowledge.

Yours, etc.,

SYBIL RHONDDA (D.B.E.), Hon. President—

R. W. McCARRISON (Major-General, C.I.E.,

M.D.), Vice-President,

T. H. SANDERSON-WELLS (M.B.E., M.D.)

Chairman.

FLORENCE E. L. JOHNSON, President, National Council  
of Women.

This appeal has also the support of the National Allotments Society and the Women's Farm and Garden Association.

THE "BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING" AND  
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## THE PRIZE COMPETITION.

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

## PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION FOR SEPTEMBER.

Mention some of the causes of Insomnia. What steps may be taken (apart from the administration of Drugs) to relieve the condition?

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