

problem. "It would not only be foolish, but criminal and wrong to say so," he recently told the House of Lords.

Lord Addison had demanded one Government authority to deal with the whole matter.

"No one seems to have power to act," said Lord Addison, "and all the Minister of Health appears able to do is to issue circulars."

Lord Horder said that two months ago hygienic conditions in the shelters were unbelievable.

"We cannot help observing that instructions have been issued to already overworked officials who are quite unable to cope with the volume of work presented to them.

"I am not an apologist for the Government. The only thing that matters is that we get on with this business."

The Bishop of Winchester called for a dictator to overrule the various authorities and compel immediate action.

Miss Horsbrugh, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, when asked in the Commons why the full report of the Horder Committee had not been published, replied that it was undesirable that the enemy should be given all the detailed information.

The truth is that the enemy has ample facilities for obtaining information from this country, and with a 10 per cent. alien staff, working by permission of the Ministry of Health in our Emergency Hospitals, the danger of leakage may become 10 per cent. more available concerning our health arrangements.

We learn from a nurse in one of these hospitals that they have received verbal directions "to keep a quiet tongue." All these enemy aliens may love us dearly—but we doubt it, and such opportunities for leakage should be impossible.

Nurse E. P. McHattie, of Jarrow, who is acting as a factory nurse somewhere in England, has been awarded a certificate for courage and devotion to duty during an air raid, and has been highly commended by the directors of the factory. The certificate was presented to Nurse McHattie by the Prime Minister.

An appeal to retired nurses, and any who are not enrolled in the Civil Nursing Reserve, to volunteer for service in London's big air-raid shelters was broadcast recently by Miss Florence Horsbrugh, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health.

"It is not a case of giving up all your home life, because we are trying to keep the standard of 96 hours a fortnight," she said, "and as we want you to go on duty an hour or so before black-out time it will work out at present at about three or four nights a week. The rates of pay are the same as those in the Civil Nursing Reserve—three guineas a week, and your services are wanted most of all in some of the East London boroughs."

A meeting has been held at Rideau Hall, Ottawa, which was attended by representative women of Canada and prominent officials of the Department of National War Services. This meeting is the first move to give Canadian women direct representation in the leadership of the national war effort. A decision was reached

at the meeting to form a Women's National Advisory Committee to co-ordinate the war work of various women's organisations and a small committee was named to draft a plan for the organisation which will be submitted to women's clubs throughout the country.

Princess Alice, the wife of the Governor-General of Canada, the Earl of Athlone, is taking a great interest in the scheme and has agreed to act as Patroness of the Women's National Advisory Committee when this has been formed.

Nurses in every Dominion are eagerly interested in the war, and contingents from them all are giving most valuable service in various parts of the world. In South Africa the Central Governing Board of the South African Trained Nurses' Association has decided to assist the Nurses in Civil Hospitals overseas who are the victims of air raids. As soon as £100 is raised it was agreed to send it to the Royal College of Nursing in London to be used in the quarters most needing assistance. The Lord Mayor's Air Raid Fund is running on towards £200,000, and we hope all nurses suffering damage through enemy action will receive generous and prompt consideration. The generous contributors would wish our nurses, who have proved themselves such heroines in hospital raids, and who may be injured, to receive prompt and sympathetic help. Also those who have lost their homes should be cared for.

The Germans retained Orleans in their occupation of France, and are now compelling the people of Alsace-Lorraine to leave their country so that Germans may enter in and possess it. We wonder what influence will be exercised by St. Joan of Arc and "The Holy Odile: Patron Saint of Alsace." Surely it will be used to enable the victims of barbarism to rise victorious so that "they may go to the Mountain and offer thanks to God, because men will have seen such terrible abominations in this war that their generations will never want more of it."

We own to a weariness of the flesh, where our digestions are concerned. Of the making of pamphlets and leaflets where diet, nutrition, therapeutics, vitamins are concerned there is an endless flow. And it would appear, if we enjoy half the foods we have been used to, woe betide us. We are threatened with physical conditions of which we know little or nothing, and of which ignorance is bliss. We read "To-day the problem of malnutrition in this country has become a matter of growing concern to the nation at large." So it has, because pure food is often unobtainable by the poor. Where are the lovely windmills, their sails swirling around near every village? To these were brought the finest home-grown corn from which nourishing flour was obtainable by all—and mother baked the bread. From what foreign dust is our bread made to-day? And the piggy-wigs fed on wholesome potato swill, their flesh home cured as sweet as a nut. How about eggs? Hens cooped up, no prancing and pecking in spacious green fields. Milk deprived of cream, the latter a luxury unobtainable. And so on *ad infinitum*.

Queen Elizabeth enjoyed a draught of home-brewed ale for breakfast—Why not? Spacious days indeed! Would that we could return to them.

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