

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

### Queen of Canada.

There is no doubt about Queen Elizabeth being Queen of Canada, and her presentation to the Dominion archives of General James Wolfe's last letter to his mother, written a few days before the battle on Quebec's plains of Abraham, in which he won Canada for Britain 180 years ago, is just the sort of action to command love and loyalty.

The letter was written on August 31st, 1759, "on the banks of the St. Lawrence River." A passage in it said:—"My antagonist has wisely shut himself up in inaccessible entrenchments, so that I can't get at him without spilling a torrent of blood, and that perhaps to little purpose."

The Queen also presented to the archives a small portrait of Wolfe by Benjamin West, painted from a sketch showing Wolfe in his first uniform.

It is close on forty years since we visited the grave of General Wolfe on the Heights of Abraham, a poignant hour.

Then the grass grew rank and blue within the iron rails, now a magnificent Monument in honour of both Wolfe and Montcalm sanctifies the spot.

### The Woman of the Year.

News comes from Washington that the Queen is nominated as the "woman of the year" by the Merry Go Round, a column appearing in 400 U.S.A. newspapers.

"Arriving in an aloof and critical country, she completely conquered it and accomplished this conquest by being her natural self," says the column.

### Lesson Taught by Napoleon.

Dietetic experts who are to study war-time problems of nutrition will serve on a committee appointed by the British Medical Association. The members are:—

Prof. V. H. Mottram; Prof. E. P. Cathcart, Glasgow University; Prof. S. J. Cowell, University of London; Dr. J. H. Harley Williams; Dr. Maitland Radford, M.O.H., St. Pancras; Sir Kaye le Fleming, former Chairman of Council, B.M.A.; Dr. Wilfred J. Pearson, University College Hospital; and Dr. J. C. Spence, Newcastle.

Dr. Spence is also a member of the committee appointed by the Medical Research Council to advise on the question of food rations for invalids.

### Save the Birds.

Spring will be here 'ere long, and those of us who love the birds will be listening for their melodious and inspiring songs. In this white and frost-bound world these lovely feathered fellow-creatures are hungry—so please scatter food—and see, as Miss Nightingale did, that it is softened so that it may be the more easily digested. The graceful gulls and glistening pigeons are greedy birds, so make friends with the songsters—blackbirds and thrushes and robins. Our perky little friends the sparrows deserve their fair share of the crumbs because they have confidence in our affection.

### WORD FOR THE MONTH.

"We must go forward to the task, the battle and the toil. We have to fill the armies, rule the air, pour out the munitions, strangle the U-boats, sweep the mines, plough the land, build the ships, guard the streets, succour the wounded, and honour the brave." Such is the immediate and inexorable duty of all who find themselves defending the threatened standards of Western civilisation. "This is no time for ease and comfort. It is the time to dare and to endure."—*The Right Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P.*

### CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

#### Address of the Board's Offices.

We are informed that on Tuesday, January 23rd, 1940, the staff of the Board returned to the Board's own office.

All communications for the Board should now be addressed to:—

• 73, Great Peter Street,  
Westminster,  
London, S.W.1.

The street number of the building in which the Board's Office is situated has been changed from 23 to 73.

The telephone numbers will be the same as those used before the war—namely, Abbey 2414 and 2415.

### WHAT TO READ.

#### MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "Lady Nithsdale and Her Family." Henrietta Tayler.
- "The Locks of Norbury." The Duchess of Sermoneta.
- "Benes of Czechoslovakia." Godfrey Lias.
- "The Eve of Victorianism." Sophia Countess Brownlow.
- "The Romanovs." William Gerhardt.
- "Pagan Tapestry." Bertha Slosberg.
- "Marian." The Life of George Eliot. Simon Dewes.

#### FICTION.

- "Night Rider." Robert Penn Warren.
- "The Beverleys." Leslie Burgess.
- "Lizzie Borden." Mrs. Belloc Lowndes.
- "Birds of Sadness." Margot Arnold.
- "Death on the Agenda." Margaret Bidwell.
- "Take Courage." Phyllis Bentley.
- "Idle Apprentice." Joanna Cannan.
- "Verdict of 12." Raymond Postgate.
- "Valiant Heart." George Blake.
- "Inside the Gestapo." Hansjürgen Koehler.

### 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 begs to thank a number of old friends for their letters of appreciation of Margaret Brey's obituary which appeared in the last issue of the JOURNAL.

She realises that in the limited space at her disposal not "the half could be told" of her unique character and fine example to us all.

We invite readers who had not the advantage of personal association with Margaret Brey to file their JOURNALS and read of her wonderful example to her fellow nurses from time to time. We, of course, sympathise with the opinion of those who consider it a sad reflection upon the powers that be that a life of such great value to the community, to her country, and to the world at large, should have passed unrecognised by the Government, when apparently colleagues whose work for the community of far less value receive a succession of honours picked up like pebbles on the beach.

But we have the precedent of Florence Nightingale, who was senile with age before she received honourable recognition from the City of London—too old to realise the long delayed honour bestowed upon her. No doubt in the future Margaret Brey's colleagues will wish to commemorate her wonderful work in some way she would have approved—by benefiting others and not herself.—Ed.

Mrs. Mary Breckinridge, of Wendover, Kentucky, U.S.A., writes:—

"It is with deep distress that I learn of the loss of your splendid husband. I feel like sending my profound sympathy to all of the registered nurses of Great Britain,

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