

CHEVALERIE DE DIEU.

We felt sure the picture of "A Young Guardian of Righteousness" which we published in our last issue would touch the hearts of our colleagues in France, and the following letter from the President of "The National Association of Trained Nurses of France" proves professional solidarity and sympathy between the Nurses of the Allies in this struggle for the welfare of the world.

We express sincere thanks to Mlle. Jeanne de Joannis for her lovely letter:—

MONTRouGE, LE 3 AVRIL, 1940.

CHÈRE MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,

J'avais remarqué l'expression de ce jeune soldat, avec tant de pureté et tant de vaillance dans son regard, et j'en avais eu un appel au courage et une foi plus profonde dans les destinées de notre France.

Ce portrait retrouvé dans le BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING avec le texte si compréhensif et si enthousiaste qui l'accompagnait m'ont profondément touchée et je viens vous en dire ma profonde reconnaissance.

En regardant les groupes de vos marins, de vos jeunes aviateurs lorsqu'ils sont à l'honneur après des exploits qui paraissent inimaginables, je leur trouve un air de famille. Comme ils sont bien faits pour être avec nos jeunes soldats les gardiens du Droit et de la Justice et pour former la "Chevalerie de Dieu."

Quel magnifique exemple d'activité et de vaillance vous nous donnez encore dans ces jours si lourds à traverser.

Veillez croire, chère Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, à mes sentiments bien sympathiques.

JEANNE DE JOANNIS,

Présidente,

Association des Infirmières Diplômées de L'Etat Français.

HONOURS CONFERRED BY THE KING.

His Majesty the King on April 2nd received at Buckingham Palace, and invested with the Insignia of the respective Divisions of the Orders into which they had been admitted, a number of men on Active Service.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

His Majesty also conferred the Royal Red Cross on Miss Gladys Taylor, Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service.

No honour is more greatly valued by members of the Nursing profession than that of the Royal Red Cross, and no doubt during service in this terrible war there will be many recipients who well deserve such recognition.

RESIGNATION OF SIR ARTHUR STANLEY.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, G.B.E., C.B., M.V.O., LL.D., has resigned the position of Chairman of the Royal College of Nursing, a position he has held since the inauguration of the College in 1916, and there is no doubt that his social influence and support have been great assets in its progress, for which the members owe him sincere gratitude. Quite recently Sir Arthur expressed the opinion from the platform of the College that the nurses should manage their own affairs. As the Royal College of Nursing has been in active operation for a quarter of a century, we may presume that a Registered Nurse will now be elected to fill the vacancy.

CIVIL NURSING RESERVE ADVISORY COUNCIL.

The following representatives compose the Civil Nursing Reserve Advisory Council:—

Chairman: Miss Florence Horsbrugh, C.B.E., M.P.

Members

General Nursing Council—Miss D. M. Smith, Middlesex Hospital, Mortimer Street, W.1.

Central Midwives Board—Sir Comyns Berkeley, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.C.O.G., 53, Wimpole Street, W.1.

Royal College of Nursing—Miss D. S. Coode, Royal College of Nursing, Henrietta Place, Cavendish Square, W.1.

National Council of Nurses—Miss Mary S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Charing Cross Hospital, Strand, W.C.2.

Association of Hospital Matrons—Miss Helen Dey, O.B.E., R.R.C., St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.1.

Queen's Institute of District Nursing—Miss Wilmshurst, The Hermitage, East Grinstead, Sussex.

Order of St. John—Mrs. St. John Atkinson, 3 Belgrave Square, S.W.1.

British Red Cross Society—Dame Beryl Oliver, D.B.E., 3, Belgrave Square, S.W.1.

Women's Voluntary Services—The Dowager Marchioness of Reading, 41, Tothill Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

County Councils Association—E. W. Cemlyn Jones, Esq., Trewen, Penmaenmawr, North Wales.

Association of Municipal Corporations—Alderman W. E. Wilford, J.P., Park View, Hinckley Road, Leicester.

London County Council—W. Allen Daley, Esq., County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.1.

Society of Medical Officers of Health—James Ferguson, Esq., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames.

British Hospitals Association—W. H. Harper, Esq., House Governor, Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.

Any communication intended for the Council should be addressed impersonally to: The Secretary to the Civil Nursing Reserve Advisory Council, Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.1.

The first meeting of the Civil Nursing Reserve Advisory Council was held at the Ministry of Health on Friday morning, April 5th. Miss Horsbrugh, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, was in the Chair.

Apparently the meeting was not open to the Press.

The Royal British Nurses' Association, the first Association of Nurses in the world to receive a Royal Charter, has quite inexcusably been refused representation.

The Guild of Nurses also has been refused recognition, having been informed that it was represented through the National Council of Nurses. This is incorrect, as the Guild of Nurses is not affiliated to the N.C.N.

This policy of exclusion by a Government Department of Nurses' Organisations, which are entitled to express an opinion on national nursing affairs at this crisis, is, we presume, to be expected until the dictatorship at the Ministry of Health is superseded by a more liberal form of government.

In the meantime, untrained women of social influence, who, of course, have seats on the Council, will, we feel sure, consider themselves quite capable of conducting our professional affairs in connection with the care of the sick.

We are pleased to note that Mr. W. H. Harper, House Governor of the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, is a member of the Advisory Council. During his term of office on the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, he supported the best interests of the Registered Nurses in a very intelligent manner. No doubt he will use his sympathetic knowledge of the value of trained nursing upon the present occasion.

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