

"Vive de Gaulle!"

We are pleased to note that the splendid courage and sagacity of General de Gaulle is being recognised, after his first year's leadership of a crusade of free Frenchmen, against the intrigues of Vichy. To quote a *Times* correspondent formerly with the French Forces, writing of General de Gaulle:—

"Those near him speak of the prescience with which he foresaw coming events. First and foremost a soldier, sitting at a deal table in sight of Big Ben, he drew up a simple, soldierly creed that has been fervently accepted by Free Frenchmen the world over. It was to clear every German out of France, with Britain's help; cleanse France of every malign and subversive influence; and restore freedom to France, raising her by the same token to her rightful place among the nations.

"One of the most significant achievements, therefore, has been the way in which the banner of Free France has been raised on French soil, and there is ample evidence to show that the people, who needed only a lead, are flocking to it in increasing numbers.

"Free France, indeed, under Joan of Arc's Cross of Lorraine and all the symbolism it suggests, has now a powerful army of her own, largely formed and equipped in this country within the last year. From a few units it increased to 35,000 men in three months, and is now nearer 100,000."

We have always realised that Saint Joan inspires the Free French Movement led by General de Gaulle, and that victory is therefore assured.

Gifts from India.

By giving their silver trinkets, women in India have raised £3,200 to provide a blood transfusion plant for use in the Middle East.

The Navy Calling.

Urgent need for books. Please send to Royal Naval War Libraries, 40, William IV. Street, W.C.2 (Tem. 2011). Registered under the War Charities Act, 1940.

American Nurses at Mount Vernon Hospital.

Several of the American nurses are now working in a voluntary hospital before taking up their duties in the U.S.A. Hospital to be established in the West of England.

They are at the Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, Middlesex, which in peace-time specialises in radium research and the treatment of cancer.

Miss Westerman, in charge of the party of nurses, states:

"The high ideals of nursing are the same the world over, but your nurses have performed a noble service under most trying conditions. We are only too proud to help the hospitals in their greatest hour."

Varied and Tasty Diet.

Pleading for a more varied and tasty diet, for the war worker, Lord Dawson recently said: "In this struggle for freedom the result will depend in the last resort on the body and soul of the individual man. We must keep watch on his health and strength, ahead, and not behind, the times."

Cretan Women Deported to Germany.

The Greek Legation states that 500 Cretan women have been deported to Germany for taking part in the defence of their native island.

"Thus Spake Germany."

Have you read "Thus Spake Germany," the introduction by Lord Vansittart? It is the most complete revelation of the German mind yet published. Documentary proof that the doctrines of Nazism are not new, but as old as Germany itself.

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

The Annual General Meeting of the British College of Nurses will be held at Headquarters, 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, on Wednesday, September 10th, at 3 p.m., when it is hoped Fellows and Members, duty permitting, will attend.

Tea will be served after the meeting.

ALICE STEWART BRYSON,
Secretary.

AGENDA.

1. To call on the Secretary to read the Notice convening the Meeting.
2. Prayers.
3. Minutes.
4. To receive the Annual Report.
5. To receive the Financial Report from the Treasurer.
6. Appointment of Auditors.
7. Welcome to new Councillors by the President.
8. Votes of thanks.
9. Other business.

PROTEST TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH.

In accordance with the decision of the Council at its meeting held at 19, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, on July 2nd, after consideration of a communication from Miss A. M. Brownlow, Fellow, the Secretary addressed the following letter of protest to the Minister of Health.

The Case of Miss A. M. Brownlow, S.R.N.

19, QUEEN'S GATE, LONDON, S.W.7.

July 9th, 1941.

TO THE RIGHT HONBLE. ERNEST BROWN, M.C., M.P.,
Minister of Health,
Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.1.

SIR,

A greatly esteemed Fellow of the British College of Nurses, Miss A. M. Brownlow, S.R.N., has forwarded to the Council of the College, for its consideration, a copy of the letter she has received from Mr. John Moss, Public Assistance Officer, County Hall, Maidstone, instructing her that "the Minister of Health is satisfied that the arrangements embodied in the direction given by Mr. MacDonald, on December 20th, 1940, which were designed to secure that Miss Iles should act as Superintendent Matron of the Hospital, and that Miss Brownlow should assist her, have not proved successful and cannot, in the interests of the efficiency of the Hospital, be allowed to continue, and that he has decided to place Miss Brownlow forthwith on leave with pay (including the sum paid in lieu of emoluments) until further notice or until she takes up other remunerative employment."

Prior to your appointment as Minister of Health, you are doubtless aware that accusations made against Miss Brownlow in 1938 were, after a most comprehensive investigation, disproved; and Miss Brownlow was exonerated, and your predecessor, Mr. Walter Elliot, declined to deprive her of office.

Unfortunately his successor, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, whose limited experience in connection with Nursing Organisation and National Health, decided to place another lady in office as Superintendent Matron, degrading Miss Brownlow to assist her. Thus, two Matrons were in office in one Hospital, which naturally resulted in disorganisation and which placed Miss Brownlow in an intolerable position.

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