

HELP THE DEAR ANIMALS.

In order to prepare for the large numbers of dogs and cats that may be rendered homeless by air raids, the R.S.P.C.A. appeals for dog-collars and leads and for wicker baskets (size 19½ in. long, 11½ in. wide, 11½ in. deep) to convey cats. Gifts should be sent to the society's headquarters, 105, Jermyn Street, S.W.1.

Deaf Mutes.

Under the heading "Inside Information," the *Daily Sketch* gives exclusive and most valuable information. On September 26th last, animal lovers were horrified and furiously indignant after reading the following paragraphs:—

Nazis in Russia, now forced to use more horses, are adopting an ingenious but cruel method of preventing them from shying under gunfire and dive-bombing.

They are piercing their ear-drums and cutting their vocal cords. This makes them deaf-mutes. They can neither hear nor make a sound, when wounded, to give away positions.

Think of it. The horse, of all animals the most glorious and the friend of man. So beautiful, swift, and affectionate. So strong and gentle. Would that they realised their power, and before mutilation turned and trampled their cruel and demoniacal masters into the dust.

A CHILD'S EVENING PRAYER.

"Twinkle, twinkle little star."

Now the sun has gone away,
And the sky is turning grey,
I must go to bed and rest
Like a robin in its nest:
So, Lord Jesus, in Thy sight
Keep me safely through the night.

Bless my mother every day,
And my father every way;
With a care that never ends
Bless my relatives and friends;
Safely keep us all this night
Till the morning brings the light.

Bless all children everywhere,
Put them in Thine angels' care;
May the biggest angels keep
Near the babies while they sleep.
For they are too young to pray,
And they cannot talk my way.

Bless the sheep and cows and goats,
Horses, too, with shining coats;
Bless the birds that sing all day—
Tell them not to fly away—
Bless the fishes in the sea,
And, Lord Jesus, please bless me.

From "Hymns for the Present Age."

GREAT PERSONALITIES IN MINIATURE.

Sarah Duchess of Marlborough.

Old Marlborough is dying—but who can tell! Last year she had lain a great while ill, without speaking; her physicians said, "She must be blistered, or she will die." She called out, "I won't be blistered, and I won't die." If she takes the same resolution now, I don't believe she will.—*Horace Walpole.*

[Ancestress of our Prime Minister, *grace à Dieu.*—His references to this wonderful woman in his "Life of Marlborough" might well be studied at this time.—EDITOR.]

WHAT TO READ.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "Reaching for the Stars." Nora Waln.
- "Second Wind." Carl Zuchmayer.
- "I Sailed with Kings." J. R. Brandford.

FICTION.

- "Sophia." St. John Irvine.
- "They Tell No Tales." Manning Coles.
- "Jennifer." Janet Whitney.
- "Random Harvest." James Hilton.
- "Happy Ever After." Beatrice Kean Seymour.
- "The Ships and the Shore." Vicki Baum.
- "Corn in Egypt." Warwick Deeping.

POETRY.

- "Verses of a Fighter Pilot." Flying Officer A. N. C. Weir, D.F.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- "Out of the People." J. B. Priestley.
- "So Few." David Masters. (Immortal record of the Royal Air Force.)
- "We Stood for Freedom." Iris Morley.
- "Rule Britannia." Cecil King.
- "Berlin Diary." William L. Shirer.

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.

MODERN NURSE DISLIKES PITY AND CHARITY.

A leading member of the nursing profession who is leaving England for a time on foreign service, writes:—

"I should like to take this opportunity of saying how much I like the Journal, and it will be doubly helpful to have the news while I am abroad.

"In connection with increased pay for nurses, I feel very strongly that the State Registered Nurses should have a salary comparable with their professional status.

"In reading all the articles in the *Daily Telegraph* lately, I still feel that neither the Medical Profession nor the lay public realise the distinction between the probationer in training (student nurse) and the Registered Nurse. Whereas to-day conditions of living in all schools of professional training, as well as that of the probationers in hospital, have altered for the better, yet I strongly resent the implication that our probationers in our hospitals are over-worked, under-nourished and ill-treated.

"I agree with your article stating that all applicants for the nursing profession are not idealists, yet from my experience the average probationer, from whatever class she may be drawn, has a keen incentive to become a well-trained nurse, and to uphold the tradition of nursing.

"She dislikes pity and charity. She naturally likes freedom of thought, and appreciates the understanding and sympathy of her Matron, and when necessary discipline of the hospital routine, so essential for the welfare of the patients, and the contentment and happiness of the community in which she lives.

"I feel that a strong article representing the majority of those who wish their training to become an accomplished fact, and not from a minority of grumblers, would set the general public into rightful thinking; they would then see how necessary it is to increase the number of State Registered Nurses, by encouraging more to train, and

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