

AN IMPORTANT LEGAL DECISION.

REGISTERED NURSES TO ADMINISTER THE TRUST FUND.

The announcement made at the Annual General Meeting of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., held at 19, Queen's Gate, London, on May 6th last, that after consideration, in the High Court of Chancery, of its aims and attainments for the benefit of nursing education and the sick, since its inception 16 years ago, the College, now incorporated, is to be entrusted with the administration of the income of the Trust Fund, formerly administered by the Trustees, for the benefit of which upwards of £98,000 has been invested, together with the lease of beautiful headquarters, handsomely furnished, was, naturally, received with sincere satisfaction and gratitude by Fellows and Members present.

In speaking to the Report, the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, congratulated the College on this signal honour and mark of confidence, and impressed upon those present that the action of the Court necessitated an honourable and deep sense of duty upon the part of all those helping to administer the Fund for the benefit of the Nursing Profession and the sick.

Let us consider this matter for a moment, much more significant than it would at first appear. The fact that for the first time in this country an incorporated organisation composed entirely of Registered Women Nurses has been entrusted with such responsible financial powers, is a very significant fact, and one which should be realised with satisfaction by the Profession at large. It is proof of our ability to manage our own professional affairs.

We have no doubt whatever that we shall prove equal to the task and of the confidence reposed in us by high legal authority. The guiding principle of our administration must be a keen sense of duty, so that the British College of Nurses, Ltd., may fulfil its obligations without fear or favour.

THE WAR

GOOD-NIGHT, MY SON.

By NORINE FREEMAN.

Good-night, my son. Across the miles of ocean
Between your heart and mine there drifts a call
Of love and blessing—of a flaming courage
Brighter, more tender than the stars that fall.

Good-night, my son. Between us there is silence,
And yet that very silence thrills with words
That need no voice to bring them out of darkness,
For they are winged with light—swifter than birds.

Good-night, my son. God's love is all around you—
The sea, the earth—even the wing-filled air
Is luminous with His eternal presence.
Go where you may, He is forever there.

Good-night, my son. There in your island outpost
You stand in firm young pride, above all fear—
You and the other sons of other mothers.
We wait and tend the flame. God bless you, dear.
From the *Quarterly Bulletin*.

Always on Duty.

The King and Queen have been in the West Country and seen for themselves the damage at Exeter and lovely Bath. Bad enough but might have been worse.

Gallant Little Malta.

His Majesty by telegram announced that he has awarded the George Cross to the island fortress of Malta in honour of her brave people. Their defence and endurance is an epic of this war.

Anzac Day.

On Anzac Day the King sent the following message to the people of Australia:—

"At this solemn moment in the history of Australia, the Queen and I are indeed proud to join with our people of the Commonwealth in the commemoration of Anzac Day.

"The war has drawn near to the shores of Australia and New Zealand." The threat of invasion hangs over them.

"The men and women of this generation who stand resolute and ready to meet these threats find inspiration in the example of their fathers, whose devotion and sacrifice we gratefully remember this day."

Journal for Relatives of War Prisoners.

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE.

The Queen, in a message in the first issue of *The Prisoner of War*, a new monthly journal published by the Red Cross and St. John Prisoners of War department, says:—

"As President of the British Red Cross Society I have watched with close interest the varied aspects of the merciful work carried out by the Red Cross and St. John war organisation. I am glad now to learn that the Prisoners of War department is to publish a special monthly journal for the enlightenment and guidance of prisoners' next-of-kin. They are often in my thoughts and in my prayers, especially the mothers and wives, the sisters and betrothed of those who have fallen into enemy hands.

"Loss of freedom is hard to bear for those who have lived as free men in a free country, and it is hard, too, for those who wait at home to go cheerfully about their daily tasks in the knowledge that someone dear to them is in exile and a prisoner. I hope that it may be of some small consolation to them to know that the Red Cross is striving by every means in its power to lighten the lot of British prisoners of war and to make them feel that they are ever in the thoughts of those at home. I wish the Red Cross God-speed in its good work."

The new journal is being sent every month free of charge to all registered at the Prisoners of War Department at St. James's Palace as next-of-kin.

A Message of Good Cheer.

Mr. Churchill, our Prime Minister, broadcasting on May 10th, deserves the thanks of the whole world for his manly speech; it just expressed the ingrained instincts of the British people. No bombast, just grit. "We are," he said "out to win for the sake of humanity, and that is all there is to it. The Soviet Government had suggested that the Germans, in the desperation of their assault, might use poison gas against Russia. If this new outrage was committed, we should use our growing superiority to carry gas warfare far and wide against military objectives in Germany. We are ourselves firmly resolved not to use this odious weapon unless it is used first by the Germans. Knowing our Hun, however, we have not neglected to make preparations on a formidable scale. . . ."

The speech concluded with the following words:

"I am not prone to make predictions, but I have no doubt to-night that British and American sea-power will grip and hold the Japanese, and that overwhelming air-power, supported by covering military operations, will lay them low.

"This would come to pass, of course, very much sooner should anything happen to Hitler in Europe.

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