

**NURSING ECHOES.**

The portrait study of the Princess Elizabeth and the Princess Margaret Rose, made by Mr. Cecil Beaton, in the Bow Room at Buckingham Palace, is charming. Their Royal Highnesses are wearing pink silk frocks, decorated with bows made up of blue pearls and ordinary pearls. We can imagine how lovely they must be, and in these dowdy days we realise the inspiration of such becoming garments.

A new year is a good time to ask ourselves: "What have I done during the past twelve months to help my country in its time of need?" Let us hope in the majority of cases the reply will place conscience at rest; but should it be otherwise, and self has predominated, there is still time to help to undertake work for others. We may take it that no young nurses are eagerly making money whilst the sick and wounded suffer from a shortage of skilled nursing; but if such exist, it would be well that they should be conscripted and made to do their duty.

One thing is very encouraging, the journals of the various organisations of nurses appear to time, containing most interesting reports of co-operation and progress. The war has had no power to lessen their fellowship, and those kindly sent to us are helpful and greatly enjoyed.

*The Nightingale Fellowship Journal*, the official organ of the Nightingale Fellowship, St. Thomas's Hospital, prints a facsimile of the original letter sent by H.M. King Edward VII to Miss Nightingale, conferring on her the Order of Merit. It is dated:

BUCKINGHAM PALACE.  
Nov. 28th, 1907.

DEAR MISS NIGHTINGALE,—

I am desired by the King to inform you that it affords

him much pleasure to offer you the Order of Merit in recognition of the invaluable services which you have rendered to the country and to humanity.

Believe me, dear Miss Nightingale,

Yours truly,

KNOLLYS.

This great honour was never more appropriately bestowed, although it did not reach Miss Nightingale until half a century after her monumental work in the Crimea, and the still greater service she rendered the world after her return to England.

From reports of the work at St. Thomas's Hospital, Hydestile, Godalming, it is evident that the important work of the Nursing School is being carried on under favourable circumstances, and under the heading of "War-time Adventure" most interesting letters appear from members of the Fellowship whose experiences are full of adventure.

For the nursing profession the experiences of war are wonderfully illuminating, an education in itself; of very great value in a profession apt to become narrow in its environment.

We have to congratulate Mr. Stephen Hodkinson, a member of the staff of St. James's Hospital, Balham, who has gained the Diploma of Nursing at London University—the first man to do so. He trained at St. Peter's Hospital, Whitechapel, E., became a State Registered Nurse in 1937, and later passed as a "Sister Tutor" at Battersea Polytechnic. We presume, as the title "Brother Tutor" can hardly be adopted, that for the future Tutor of Nursing may be adopted by both sexes.

Writing under the heading "Tributes to Nurses,"



Photo]

[The Associated Press.

**OUR TWO PRINCESSES: A NEW YEAR'S PORTRAIT.**

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