

of training is she entitled, to get into the State Register. It has been a long fight to try to raise to an adequate level of skill and knowledge the technique of the nursing sisterhood . . . The object of the Act of 1919 was to make a nursing profession, and to give the members of that profession a student training, just as doctors, engineers, lawyers and other professions have a student training . . . It is on the basis of the trained mind of the nurse that the various types of experience which she is given in the course of her training have their effect and develop her capabilities and capacities. . . . I would beg of you not to allow any weakening in the training basis that is to be behind those women who are fully accredited members of the nursing profession, but to do anything possible to help V.A.D.s to pass over from the most unfortunate and most anomalous position that they are in now into the company of State Registered nurses.

Lord Lang of Lambeth supported Lord Kinnaird.

Viscount Elibank, Lord Hemingford, Lord Sempill, Viscount Bennett all spoke in favour of the Amendment. Lord Alness expressing his gratitude to V.A.D. nurses, Auxiliary Nurses, Red Cross Nurses for their wonderful work, expressed his regret at not being able to accept the Amendment moved by Lord Craigmyle. He was very much impressed with what Lord Geddes had said, that there is a sharp distinction between training and experience, and if systematic training is to be the criterion of admission to this clause . . . "I cannot admit that their training has been ample and sufficient."

On Question. Whether the said words shall be there inserted?

Their Lordships divided. Contents, 18; Not-Contents, 20.

#### CONTENTS.

Cromer, E., Onslow, E., Bennett, V., Elibank, V. (Teller); Rothermere, V., Samuel, V., Annesley, L. (V. Valentia); Beaverbrook, L., Chatfield, L., Craigmyle, L. (Teller); Davies, L., Denman, L., Hemingford, L., Keyes, L., Kinnaird, L., Sempill, L., Stanmore, L., Winster, L.

#### NOT-CONTENTS.

Devonshire, D., Abingdon, E., Lucan, E., Munster, E., Vane, E. (M. Londonderry); Margesson, V., Wimborne, V., Ainess, L., Bethel, L., Brabazon of Tara, L., Bruntisfield, L., Cecil, L. (V. Cranborne); Cherwell, L., Clanwilliam, L. (E. Clanwilliam), Desborough, L., Geddes, L., Sherwood, L., Snell, L. (Teller); Southwood, L., Templemore, L. (Teller).

Resolves in the negative, and Amendment disagreed to accordingly.

The remaining clauses in the Bill were agreed to.

This was an historic Parliamentary Debate. Those nurses interested in their professional status and its history should obtain the Official Report from the Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. Price 6d.

#### THURSDAY, JULY 15th, 1943.

The Nurses (Scotland) Bill was again before the House of Lords on July 15th, 1943.

Amendments were reported and agreed.

### ROYAL RED CROSS. FIRST CLASS.

The King has awarded the Royal Red Cross to the following eminent Military Nurses for meritorious service:—

Miss E. M. Bell, Princ. Matron, Q.A.I.M.N.S.; Miss E. E. Hester (now Mrs. Humble), Matron, Q.A.I.M.N.S.; Miss A. Hughes, Matron, Q.A.I.M.N.S.; Miss D. L. Underhill, Matron, Q.A.I.M.N.S.; Miss V. M. Whiteman, Matron, Q.A.I.M.N.S.

### ROYAL RED CROSS. SECOND CLASS.

Mrs. A. Bellingham, trained nurse, Ind. Vol. Aid Service.

## THE WAR.

### Total War or Unconditional Surrender.

We are glad to note that bouquets were cast at the feet of the Prime Minister in the House of Commons recently when he announced, in no uncertain terms, that total war or unconditional surrender was the policy of the Allies when dealing with the enemy.

The martyrdom of humanity demands it. The slain, wounded and prisoners who have made untold sacrifice for peace on earth must be honourably esteemed.

The mothers and lovers of men dead and alive demand justice. We will that war shall never again be tolerated, and that the world be civilised. It is not the blood of the pacifists which has dyed the ground crimson, but the blood of mothers and men.

### The Golden Book.

Who is compiling "The Golden Book of Heroism" in connection with this war? Deeds are done daily by men which make the heart glow.

How grievous that Donald Owen Clarke, apprentice, Merchant Navy, did not live to receive the George Cross from his King!

*The Times* reports:—

"BURNED APPRENTICE'S HEROISM.

"The King has awarded the George Cross to:—

DONALD OWEN CLARKE (deceased), apprentice, Merchant Navy.

"The ship, sailing alone, was attacked by the enemy and hit by two torpedoes. Fire broke out immediately, flames sweeping the vessel from bridge to poop. Apprentice Clarke was trapped in the accommodation and was severely burned. Despite this he made his way on deck and was one of those who got into the only boat which left the ship. The painter of the boat was kept fast and the helm put over and, as the vessel still carried some way, the boat was towed clear of the burning ship's side. When the painter was cast off the boat drifted back, and it was clear to all on board that it would require a tremendous effort to pull it out of danger.

"Most of the occupants were so badly burned that they were unable to help, but Apprentice Clarke took an oar and pulled heartily for two hours without a word of complaint. It was not until after the boat was clear that it was realised how badly he had been injured. His hands had to be cut away from the oar, as the burnt flesh stuck to it. He had pulled as well as anyone, although he was rowing with the bones of his hands. Later, when lying at the bottom of the boat his thoughts were still with his shipmates, and he sang to keep up their spirits. Next day he died, having shown the greatest fortitude.

"By his supreme effort, undertaken without thought of self and in spite of terrible agony, Apprentice Clarke ensured the safety of his comrades in the boat. His great heroism and selfless devotion were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Merchant Navy."

A whole page in "The Golden Book" is due to this valiant youth.

### £607,000,000 from "Wings" Weeks.

The grand total secured by the Wings for Victory weeks was £607,000,000, which is a really splendid result.

### High Standard of Nursing Demanded for Armed Forces in U.S.A.

We quote the following valuable information from *Professional Nursing*.

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