

Round about the Shops.

WHAT are we going to wear? The question must shortly be answered, for, although the present lovely weather almost deludes us into believing that summer is still with us, autumn will be upon us with a rush by-and-bye, and then we shall discover that we have "nothing to wear." Nurses are, after all, better off than many people in this respect if they wear outdoor uniform, for though fashions vary, it is a mistake to attempt to be fashionable in uniform, the plainer the cloak the more professional, and, therefore, becoming its appearance, and so many firms now cater for the needs of nurses that there is no difficulty in obtaining a desirable garment.

AT MESSRS. DEBENHAM AND FREEBODY'S.

At Messrs. Debenham and Freebody's, in Wigmore Street, one is always sure to see becoming nursing uniforms which are of good material and in good taste, while they are inspected under the best conditions, for one large room has been devoted exclusively to the needs of nurses, and here cloaks, bonnets, dress materials, and the various etceteras which go to make up the kit of a nurse, may be inspected without going from one department to another. Of bonnets, the Alexandra, at 10s. 6d., is a pretty little close-fitting one, with a black velvet bow, and a Marie Stewart shape at 11s. 6d. is attractive. The Victoria, a neat little black bonnet with a velvet brim and ribbon bow, costs only 7s., and is wonderfully becoming. A speciality of the firm are some plain muslin bonnet strings, with five tucks, costing 7½d. a pair. Of cloaks, the well-known and tried shapes are still the favourites. Fashions, happily, do not greatly affect nursing uniforms, but well-made winter cloaks may be obtained from 31s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. Matrons will do well to note that furniture for nurses' rooms may be obtained here, good in appearance and reasonable as to price.

AT MESSRS. GARROULD'S.

Perhaps no firm has laid itself out more to cater for the needs of nurses, or has a larger nursing clientele than Messrs. Garrould, of Edgware Road. At the Earl's Court Exhibition their stand of nursing requisites is well in evidence, and they have thoughtfully taken extra space, in which seats are arranged, where nurses may rest and may consult the nursing books provided for their use. We are not surprised that this firm has been awarded a gold medal for the excellence of its exhibit at Earl's Court.

Messrs. Garrould are now showing some good shapes in winter cloaks, notably the Edgware,

in dark blue cloth, with sleeves, price £2 2s. This has a stitched collar and is altogether a most workmanlike garment. The Iris, double-breasted, with wide sleeves, at 39s. 6d., the Silvia, with double-breasted cape, and the Cecil, with detachable cape, at 29s. 6d., are all excellent shapes. Much trouble has been taken to secure a varied and satisfactory selection of washing materials, and the nurses who cannot find something to suit them amongst the materials provided, must be hard to please. There are Indigo Cambrics, Galatea Twills, Limerick and Killaloe linens, an admirable dark blue material called Navy Matting, Regatta, Clio, Castor, Salvador, and Halifax Cloths, Melville Zephyrs, Milo Gingham, Hector drills, and Denrick Beiges, of all prices and colours, and guaranteed to wash—a most attractive selection. We must not omit to mention the Canute watch, which is now made with an engine-turned back. It has a long centre-second hand, and is guaranteed. Its price is only £1 1s., and it would form a most desirable Christmas-box for a nursing friend.

AT MESSRS. D. H. EVANS.

Messrs. D. H. Evans, the well-known Oxford Street firm, are now catering for the needs of nurses and are showing some coats and cloaks at very moderate prices. The "Dudley," of black cravenette, with black velvet collar, and made with sleeves, is a very desirable possession, and costs only 25s. 9d. Other shapes are the "Saxton" and "Spa," at the same price, and the "Rex," a blue cloak with a full cape, at £1 1s. Bonnets may also be obtained from this firm at prices varying from 12s. 11d. without veils to 14s. 11d. and 16s. 11d. with. A little black bonnet, trimmed with velvet, at 13s. 11d., was one which specially commended itself to us.

The speciality of this firm is, however, its Irish linen aprons, and these are specially to be commended to the attention of Matrons of hospitals and infirmaries and nursing institutions. A full apron, made of strong and durable material—in case of the lower prices of union, that is a mixture of cotton and linen, and the higher prices entirely of linen—may be had with rounded or square bib, with pockets or without, or made to sample, from 2s. 4½d. to 2s. 11¾d. Caps of the plain or trimmed Sister Dora pattern are also obtainable, from 1s. 0¾d. to 1s. 11¾d., and well made collars and cuffs may also be added to the outfit.

It will therefore be seen that there is ample provision for the requirements of the most exacting nurses. The only difficulty is the difficulty of selection. We advise our country readers to send for the illustrated catalogues of these firms without delay.

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