

H. G. Mackay has been appointed Head Sister of the Navy Nursing Service at Haslar, Miss A. French at the Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth, and Miss F. Cadenhead at the Royal Naval Hospital, Chatham.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

During the past year the Royal Red Cross, given "for zeal and devotion in providing for and nursing sick and wounded sailors, soldiers, and others with the army in the field, on board ship, or in hospitals," has been bestowed by the Queen on the following nurses:—Miss E. Ryan (for services rendered in Crete), Miss May Christina Anderson (Samoa), Miss L. A. Harrison, and Miss L. B. Stowell (Zomba, Central Africa).

GENERAL NURSING.

In the various branches of nursing we may note, as to Private Nursing, that the co-operative system, by which the nurse who earns the money receives it, less a small percentage, is becoming increasingly adopted. The effect upon the institutions which pay their nurses a yearly salary has been that they have had to raise the salary offered in order to attract nurses. In District Nursing, the work of the Queen's Jubilee Institute is being extended, with the result that the benefit of trained nursing is being brought to a larger number of the poor.

ARMY NURSING.

In Army Nursing, great demands have been made upon the Army Medical Department, owing to the war in South Africa, and the lesson of the year has been that the general unpreparedness of the War Office extended to the Nursing Department also. The small number of nurses on the Army Nursing Service Reserve was speedily exhausted, and others were hastily enrolled and despatched, without any official reference to their Matrons as to their professional attainments and suitability as Army Sisters, or any experience of Military Nursing at home. Moreover, as there is no Superintendent of Nursing at the War Office, and no General Superintendent in South Africa, the Sisters sent out had no official head through whom they could report to the Nursing Department, or consult if in need of advice. Further, though the number of Sisters sent out has been in excess of those employed in previous wars, it has been amply demonstrated that many more were needed if the sick soldier is to receive as much attention as the sick pauper.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE.

The list of deaths in the Nursing Profession this year is a sadly long one. We have to deplore the loss of Miss M. F. Barrow, for nearly

twenty years Lady Superintendent of the General Infirmary, Chester; of Miss E. Grace Hanan, who acted as Matron of the Crumpsall Infirmary, Manchester, for the same period; of Miss Frances Forrest, for twenty-four years Lady Superintendent of the Nottingham and Notts Nursing Association; of Miss Annie Grant, for many years connected, in various positions, with the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and late Matron of the Scottish Nursing Institute; of Miss Fisher, the Lady Superintendent and Hon. Secretary of the Taunton District Nursing Association; of Mother M. M. Taylor, Foundress of the Providence Free Hospital, St. Helen's, and one of Miss Nightingale's band of nurses in the Crimea. The name of Nurse L. F. Duff, of the Borough Hospital, Plymouth, must also be added to this list.

In South Africa, many nurses have laid down their lives for their country during the present war:—Sisters M. C. Roe, F. Bell, and Stuart Jones, of the Army Nursing Service, and Sisters Chown, E. M. Gardner, Clara Evans, Sage, Isabel Caldcleugh, M. J. West, E. M. Bonella Hall, and Annie Matheson, of the Army Nursing Service Reserve.

A PEEP INTO FUTURITY.

With the close of the century, which has seen the rise and development of the science of nursing, a peep into the future of our much-loved profession in the era now before us, is well nigh irresistible. What will the new century bring us? May we venture upon a forecast? In the first place, it requires no prophet to foretell that there will be a consolidation of our forces. The great International Nursing Congress at Buffalo next year, to which many of us are looking forward to stimulate our aspirations, cannot fail to impress upon those who take part in it the many interests which nurses of all lands have in common with one another, and to strengthen the bonds of fellowship which already unite us. This, at least, and much more besides, the Congress will bring us.

We believe, however, that the new century will be chiefly remarkable for progress in the more efficient education of nurses, and we look forward, first of all, to political enfranchisement for the women of this country, because we are becoming increasingly doubtful whether *any* profession of women, our own included, will make much headway until we have obtained this fundamental basis of freedom.

And then what vistas open up before us. Our own profession will be recruited from the ranks of women inspired with a sense of their responsibility to the State, and of their duty as the law-

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