

little or no experience, and there have occurred in consequence scandals which are deeply to be regretted. Still the principle has proved to be of such enormous service during the present war that it may be stated without fear of contradiction, that without the services of the Army Nursing Reserve a much greater loss of life must have resulted, and that it would have been impossible for the Army Medical Department without such assistance to have carried out their arduous duties as satisfactorily as they have done.

Finally, last June a deputation from the Matrons' Council brought before the Secretary of State for War a condensed statement of the various reforms which it has for so long advocated; and we have the supreme pleasure to observe that in principle they have been accepted and adopted in the Report of the Committee. Briefly, then, simplicity, efficiency, and professional oversight, careful organization, proper inspection, and fair remuneration, are the bases on which the new scheme is founded. The Nursing Service, to be designated Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, is to include the existing Army Nursing Service and the Indian Nursing Service, and Her Majesty is made its President and supreme controller. In respect to this we not only gladly recognise the admirable fitness of our Queen to be the head of the nation's nurses, but we would venture to urge that a step further might have been taken, and that it would have brought about increased efficiency, probably increased economy, and certainly a much needed reform, if the scheme had included the Nurses employed in the Royal Naval Service. Why should the senior service not be cared for as highly as the Army? It is the service according to the old saying, on which, under the good providence of God, the safety and honour of this country must always chiefly depend. As we have from time to time pointed out, improvements in the Naval Nursing Service are as greatly needed as in the Army, and our Queen should surely be at the head of that Service, as well as the President of the Army Nurses. We would therefore earnestly suggest that the Nursing Services for the Navy, the Army, the Indian Army, and the Colonies should all be amalgamated in one truly Imperial Department, with our Queen at the head of it all. We will next week review the Report of the Committee in the detail which it deserves.

Annotations.

WAR HONOURS FOR NURSES.

The list of Honours and Promotions for Officers and Soldiers, published in the *Gazette* of September 27th, includes the names of the undermentioned Nursing Sisters upon whom the King has been pleased to confer the decoration of the Royal Red Cross in recognition of their services during the South African War.

ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

Superintendent Miss Martha Thomas, Superintendent Miss Sidney Jane Browne, Superintendent Miss Elizabeth Anne Dowse, Superintendent Miss Sarah Emily Webb, Superintendent Miss Sarah Elizabeth Oram, Superintendent Miss Ann Garriock, Nursing Sister and Acting Superintendent Miss Louisa Watson Tulloh, Nursing Sister and Acting Superintendent Miss Louisa Mary Stewart, Nursing Sister Miss Elizabeth Treacher Noble, Nursing Sister Miss Alice Sweeting Bond, Nursing Sister Miss Jane Hoadley, Nursing Sister Miss Mary Grenfell Hill.

ARMY NURSING SERVICE RESERVE.

Nursing Sister Miss Jane Elizabeth Skillman, Nursing Sister Miss Annie Beadsmore Smith, Nursing Sister Miss Annie Blanche Trew, Nursing Sister Miss Ethel Hope Beecher, Nursing Sister Miss Amy Knaggs, Nursing Sister Miss Jessie Southwell, Nursing Sister Miss Edith M'Call Anderson, Nursing Sister Miss Emma Maud M'Carthy, Nursing Sister Miss Mary Elizabeth Greenham.

IRISH HOSPITAL.

Miss Annie Maude M'Donnell.

YEOMANRY HOSPITAL.

Miss Catherine Emelia Nisbet, Miss Mary C. Fisher.

WELSH HOSPITAL.

Miss Marion Lloyd.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN'S HOSPITAL.

Miss Eleanor Constance Lawrence.

EDINBURGH HOSPITAL.

Miss Annie Warren Gill.

PORTLAND NATIONAL HOSPITAL.

Miss Edith Pretty.

LADYBRAND.

Miss Julia Underwood.

LADYSMITH.

Mrs. Eugénie Ludlow.

MAFEKING.

Mother Superior Teresa, Miss Hill, Miss Crauford.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Miss E. Nixon.

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