

The Brigade Hospital of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England is now almost fully organised, with Miss C. E. Todd as Matron and Miss M. A. Chittock as Assistant Matron. Both ladies were trained at Guy's. Miss A. E. MacMahon, who was Matron of the Queen's Canadian Military Hospital at Shorncliffe, is to be Sister of the Canadian Ward in the Brigade Hospital. The hospital will probably be arranged on the hut system, to contain about 550 beds, and is to be erected in France, south of Calais. There are to be a limited number of trained nurses and 20 Voluntary Aid workers, to act as probationers—work, of course, which numbers of qualified nurses would only be too happy to undertake on foreign active service.

But now that the War Office has decided to employ and pay members of Voluntary Aid Detachments in the regular military hospitals, as probationers, their status must be definitely defined, as they will be no longer voluntary workers, but included in the regular nursing ranks as public servants. These probationers are to be selected by Miss Swift, the age to be from 23 to 38, and only engaged on a month's trial, and if satisfactory, to be engaged for a year's service, or until the termination of the war. It is reported that the Matron-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Nursing Service is looking forward to the admission of these Voluntary Aid workers into the wards of military hospitals. There is no doubt that our regular military hospitals during war time are much understaffed, but if the probationer system is to be permitted during war, some thought must be taken as to the economic effect on the Nursing Profession in time of peace, when these specialist probationers are no longer required in military hospitals. The solution of that question looms ahead as a very serious one for those nurses

who are conscientiously giving four years' arduous work to qualify themselves as trained nurses.

The hospital at Brockenhurst, Hants, for the sick and wounded of our Indian troops is now in full working order, and the Ladies' Committee of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem are naturally anxious to see the result of the splendid gift of £10,000 which the Order made towards its organisation through the Indian Soldiers' Fund. It has been arranged that members of the Committee desiring to inspect the hospital may do so on Saturday, 27th inst., when a special train will be at their disposal for the purpose. Miss McCall Anderson, formerly Matron of St. George's Hospital, is Matron at the Brockenhurst Hospital.



MENTIONED IN DESPACHES:
SISTER E. TULLY,
ROYAL INFIRMARY, EDINBURGH.

Miss Bessie MacMurchy, of Toronto, was in London last week on her way to Paris to join the nursing staff of the American Ambulance to which she has been appointed. Miss MacMurchy is a fully-qualified nurse, a graduate of the New York Hospital, where so many Canadians have been trained. She is a sister of Dr. Helen MacMurchy, who is Inspector of the Feeble-minded for the Province of Ontario, and Assistant Inspector of Charities and Hospitals.



MENTIONED IN DESPACHES:
SISTER V.M. KIDDLE, GUY'S HOSPITAL.

Miss Edith Gregory, formerly Matron of the London Fever Hospital, to whose work we recently alluded in this JOURNAL, writes from Dunkirk that by invitation of the President of the Société de Secours aux Blessés Militaires, one of the constituent societies of the French Red Cross, she is working with one of its units, consisting of twenty-two members, in the Hôpital de la Caserne Jean Bart. They are doing their best to tackle some very rough work quite simply and to grapple with over 1,000 enteric cases. Of course, they are not nearly enough, and what

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)