

a protest against the suggested disorganisation of the Nursing School attached, which she considers will result from a succession of twenty voluntary workers passing through the wards for a month's term. She considers the system unjust to the patients, and the nurses and regular probationers, who have already plenty to do without instructing a constant succession of new workers, who have not time to be brought under discipline, and who in consequence add greatly to the anxiety of supervision. She also considers to flood hospitals with short-term probationers will depreciate the standard of nursing in the future.

As to compelling skilled workers, after arduous training, to impart knowledge in the management of highly organised departments, such as the Kitchen, Laundry, Store Room, and Linen Room, to these birds of passage, several Matrons consider it would be most unfair, as such post-graduate instruction is reserved for the best pupils in the schools, anxious to qualify themselves as Superintendents of such departments, and for the position of Matron.

The War Office proposes to employ 3,000 of these workers in military hospitals and in the new military auxiliary hospitals being prepared in anticipation of the advance campaign in the spring. They will be paid a salary we believe, at the rate of £20 annually, and we are assured they are to work simply as probationers. If this is correct, then they will have nothing to do with work in the Kitchen, Laundry, Store Room, and Linen Room, and there is no reason for our hospitals and infirmaries to be disorganised for their benefit. Moreover, as the appeal for funds is constant in support of women out of work, all additional industrial labour required and paid for by the War Office

should be reserved for the class of worker who earns her living by performing it, and should not be given to those who have comfortable homes and who are well-to-do, and are, moreover, of the type who have never offered to give one day's service to the sick and indigent poor in hospitals and infirmaries from time immemorial. No one realises this more distinctly than the devoted Matrons of our Poor Law Infirmaries, many of whom have given half a lifetime of such service to

the poor, and who have of recent years experienced the utmost difficulty in obtaining a supply of nurses and probationers to care for these poor people whose environment is devoid of glamour and kudos.

Miss Susan Coulter, mentioned by Sir John French in a recent despatch, whose portrait we publish on this page, is a member of the Civil Hospitals Reserve, and at the time of receiving her summons for active service was Sister in the diphtheria wards at the Derby Borough Isolation Hospital. Since last August she has been Sister on one of the ambulance trains in France. The *Derby Express*, to which we are indebted for this portrait, states that Sister Coulter, who is a native of Londonderry, was Sister and Night Sister at the Women's Hospital, Liverpool. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester.



MISS SUSAN COULTER, CIVIL HOSPITALS RESERVE, MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES.

The members of the Army Nursing Service Reserve are now permitted to wear a grey felt hat, round which is worn a ribbon of the national colours.

Miss McLachey, Matron of the Quebec Military Hospital, has been accepted for service with the McGill General Hospital for Overseas Service, with a large number of nurses from the Royal Victoria Hospital and the General Hospital, Montreal.

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