

Neuman, Miss Dora Vine, Miss Hester Kennedy, Miss A. B. Owen, Miss E. A. Noblett, Miss E. Wilson-Jones, Miss Etta Treventhan, Miss Ethel E. Hall, Miss Grace Jenkins, Miss Catharine Wright.

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

Outline the nursing care of ex-ophthalmic goitre following operation.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

"WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE LAST THIS TIME."

When the history of the war comes to be written, the words uttered by trained nurses, in the face of imminent death, will be found worthy of the traditions of the great profession to which they belong.

It is with pride we record that when the hospital ship *Anglia* sank in the Channel on November 17th, after striking a mine the Matron, and nursing staff worked with the utmost heroism. One patient stated that when he begged the Matron (Mrs. Mitchell), and two Sisters to get into a boat which had just come alongside they would not hear of it. "I'm not leaving this deck till I see all my own wounded men off," said one, and another touched an even higher level: "Our duty is to see you men off safe—we have the *right* to be last this time."

The patient who relates this says: "Not until the water was lapping up over my feet did I slide off, and up to then not a single nurse had left her post in the sinking ship. It was just heart-rending to see their single-minded devotion to the wounded chaps under their care."

The end came with dramatic suddenness. With wounded, nurses, doctors, and sailors, clinging to the stern the *Anglia* seemed for one brief moment to stand on her bows, and then disappeared.

Happily, only one, Miss Mary Rodwell, lost her life in performing her duty, but every nurse upon the ship was ready, and willing, nay, claimed the right to be last on the sinking ship. They have added lustre to the Roll of illustrious nurses whom the profession all the world over is proud to acclaim.

Miss Rodwell, who was trained at the Hendon Infirmary, and was a member of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve, had been for some months on hospital ships, and latterly on H.M.S. *Anglia*. On the previous voyage, the *Anglia*, as our readers are aware, had the honour of bringing the King across, and Miss Rodwell, with others, had the care of some of the suite, who were ill.

After making the return journey they appear to have stayed on the other side for some days, as the weather was so bad, and the Channel obstructed, so it is specially sad that when the

journey home was so nearly accomplished the ship should have been struck by a mine.

Those who know the good work done by Miss Rodwell during her training and subsequent career realise that her death was in keeping with her life. We learn she was below with "cot" patients when the ship was struck, and went down with the men because both duty and sympathy forbade that she should leave them to die alone. She laid down her life for King and Country as faithfully and bravely as the men at the Front, and has left to her colleagues an example which must be an inspiration and a stimulus to fresh endeavour.

Sister Lavinia Fawkes, for many years a member of the Registered Nurses' Society, has been appointed Sister-in-Charge of Holmleigh Red Cross Auxiliary Military Hospital, at Harrow-on-the-Hill, affiliated to Charing Cross Hospital, London. Holmleigh is a charming little place, where we feel sure Sister Fawkes will make the patients and helpers very happy.

The *Red Cross*, the official organ of the British Red Cross Society, contains, month by month, much interesting information, but we regret to note a very ill-informed and prejudiced article, headed "Committees and Matron," dealing with the now historic ill-treatment of the Matron at the Endsleigh Palace Hospital for Officers, in which the writer makes the quite untenable claim that auxiliary military hospitals, if in part supported by charity, even if subsidised by the State, are "voluntary" hospitals, and proceeds to argue the case on this contention—from which point of view, we, as a taxpayer, entirely disagree. We claim, moreover, that we pay the officials at the War Office to perform their own duties and to accept the responsibility for which they are paid—in justice to the patients and the staff. The writer of the article, with unintentional humour, continues to propound the opinion that "a hospital matron is somewhat in the same position as a salaried solicitor of a corporate body. The Corporation selects him and it can dismiss him." No doubt it can, because it not only selects him but pays him, but woe betide the "corporate body" which dismisses him illegally—and that is, in fact, what the Committee of the Endsleigh Palace Hospital did, in their callous treatment of their Matron. The article refers to our advice to members of the nursing profession not to accept service in the institution referred to. This gives us an opportunity to repeat it, for the reason that professional women cannot afford to risk their reputations.

Here is the latest *canard* reported to us by a late member of the nursing staff. She had occasion to interview a well-known woman concerning work. Listen to the following conversation.

"Where have you been recently working?" the nurse was asked.

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