

to share in the general administration of the Hospital, in conjunction with her male colleagues, and this was the only safe and self-respecting position for women to fill in public work.

MISS ISLA STEWART here read a portion of a letter from Mrs. Hampton Robb (U.S.A.) as follows:—"You surprise me greatly by what you tell me, that there are only four or five women on hospital Boards. The Board of Ladies in the Lakeside Hospital, of which I am a member, numbers no less than 40, and 15 trustees, and, so far as I know, there are few hospitals in this country where women are not on the Boards. The Johns Hopkins is one of the exceptions, and I think it is all the worse for it."

MISS LUCY WALKER, replying, quite agreed that women should be on hospital Boards, but argued that they should be prepared for it. Only the Superintendent of Nursing knew the constant worry of having a number of women, who had not been disciplined, interfering in the details of management. She spoke from experience. When she first went into the hospital of which she had charge, she found interference in every detail. That had been changed. It was good for women to work on public Boards, but it was hard for the Superintendents if they did not realise their respective positions and duties.

### The 'Royal' Red Cross.

THE Queen has conferred the Decoration of the Royal Red cross upon Miss Sarah Clarke, Miss Mary Nutt, and Miss Minnie Powell, in recognition of their services in tending the sick in the field hospitals of the West African Frontier Force at Lokoja and Jebba.

### Appointments.

#### MATRON.

MISS JANE LITTING has been appointed Matron of the Convalescent Home for Workwomen, Llanudno, in connection with the works of Messrs. Kynoch, Limited, Birmingham. Miss Litting was trained for three years at the Royal Free Hospital, and obtained experience in midwifery at the General Lying-In Hospital, Lambeth. She has acted as midwife in connection with the Cheltenham District Nursing Association, and for four years held the position of Superintendent of Midwives at Queen Charlotte's Hospital.

#### SISTER.

MISS ELLEN BURR RACKHAM has been appointed Sister at the Bridgewater Infirmary. Miss Rackham was trained at the Lincoln County Hospital, where she also held the position of Staff Nurse and Head Nurse.

## Legal Matters.

### AN UNSEEMLY DEMONSTRATION.

THE following is the report of a case which recently was brought before the Magistrate at West Ham:—

"Henry Bendy, of Brunel Street, Canning Town, and William Reece, of Malmesbury Road, Canning Town, were summoned for 'being persons, not serving in her Majesty's forces, who did unlawfully wear, without her Majesty's permission, a certain dress having the appearance of the uniform of such forces, in such a manner as to bring contempt upon that uniform,' contrary to 57 and 58 Vict., cap. 45, section 3. Police-sergeant Garner, 22 K, said that on Sunday, July 23rd, at about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, he saw the defendants and about 14 other men in the Barking Road in uniform. Bendy was wearing a red tunic with white facings, similar to the uniform of the Essex Regiment, and also a 'busby helmet' with a white plume, similar to that of the Hussars. He also had on a mask with a long red nose. Reece was wearing a red tunic with black facings, similar to that of the Royal Engineers, a forage cap, and a mask with a large red blotchy nose. The defendants were taking part in a demonstration in aid of Sister Katherine's Nurses' Home at Plaistow. All along the route they were the cause of laughter and shouts of derision. Mr. George, who defended, said on July 2nd the defendants took part in a demonstration for a charity at Poplar, and on account of their success they were specially asked by the nurses to take part in the demonstration for Sister Katherine's Nurses' Home. Mr. Gillespie said the intention was to do good for a good cause, and perhaps the matter did not come strictly within the Act. The Act was intended to prevent the placing of her Majesty's uniform to very menial uses. Mr. George said the defendants would leave off the noses next time. Eventually the summonses were dismissed on payment of costs."

We should be glad, for the sake of "Sister Katherine's Nurses' Home," to see an official denial of the statement that this unseemly demonstration took place at the request of the nurses. It is difficult to understand how any nurses could desire to obtain support for the Institution to which they belong by the adoption of such undesirable means. In spite of the assurance of Mr. George, who appeared for the defendants, that they would "leave off the noses next time," we hope that another demonstration of the kind will not take place.

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