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Editorial.

THE ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

THE Secretary of State for War, the Right Hon. St. John Brodrick, has announced that a Departmental Committee has been appointed, and will shortly be assembled with himself as Chairman, to consider a scheme which he has drawn up for the future organization of the Army Medical Service. The committee will consist of the following members: Mr. Howard H. Tooth, M.D., F.R.C.P., St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Mr. George H. Makins, F.R.C.S., St. Thomas's Hospital; Mr. Alfred D. Fripp, C.B., C.V.O., M.S., F.R.C.S., Guy's Hospital; Sir F. Treves, K.C.V.O., C.B., F.R.C.S., London Hospital; Mr. Alexander Ogston, M.D., surgeon, Aberdeen; Lieutenant-Colonel Keogh, M.D., C.B., R.A.M.C., Ireland; Mr. E. C. Perry, M.D., F.R.C.P., representing the Senate of London University; and Surgeon-General Hooper, C.S.I., President of the Medical Board, India Office; and two officers who will be named by the Commander-in-Chief to represent the Army. The Secretary will be Major H. E. R. James, R.A.M.C.

This Committee will inevitably take into consideration the present condition of the

Army Nursing Service, and will have it in its power to propose thorough reorganization. Mr. Brodrick, who, we are glad to see, is taking a keen interest in the work before this Committee, has already acknowledged his indebtedness for numerous suggestions and representations received by him from various quarters. These, no doubt, will receive careful consideration when the Committee assembles. When the nursing question is considered we hope and believe that the mistake which has so far been made in dealing with this question by the late Director-General of the Army Medical Department and War Office officials, will not be repeated, and expert advice and control in nursing matters be again ignored. We are confident that the help of Superintendents of nurse-training schools, of experienced Army Sisters, as well as of civilian Sisters with experience in military nursing, would be willingly and readily given to the Committee, and it will, we trust, be sought before a Report on this most important question is presented to Parliament. Mr. Brodrick has already before him the Memorandum presented by the Matrons' Council, which could be elaborated if desired. We are hopeful that this Report, embodying as it does the experience of years, will receive due attention.

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