

Nursing Echoes.

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The etiquette and customs of hospitals seem strange enough to probationers now-a-days, but we recently met a nurse trained in the old days at a nursing institution who related with some humour an experience when as a new pro. she went down to tea in her new uniform. During the course of the meal the Sister-in-Charge came in to the room. The newcomer, following the example of an older member of the staff, rose when the sister appeared, and was just congratulating herself upon getting through the ordeal satisfactorily when she noticed an observant eye upon her cap. The inspection was followed by the remark: "Finish your tea first, nurse, but as soon as you have done so put your ears under your cap."

Of course the cap now known as "Sister Dora" was not always worn in its present shape, but flat on the head, and tied under the chin, entirely covering the ears. The innovation of drawing it up at the back, resulting in its present form, was probably introduced by Sister Dora, whose name was thus associated with it. The change caused much discussion, and was greatly disliked by some older nurses. As one of them remarked, "It is so immodest to show your ears."

Nurses of a younger generation, however, find compensation for this particular form of immodesty in the increased acuteness of hearing which is secured to them by uncovered ears.

The Queen's Jubilee Institute for Nurses has received the sum of £500 from the executors of the late Mr. Richard Bowerman West.

Ladies belonging to the Army Nursing Service, when travelling by railway "for journeys on leave," are entitled to do so by the payment of first, second, or third class fares, as they may elect, on the same conditions as officers on leave. When proceeding on duty they are to travel at military fares at the public expense.

Mr. A. G. Hales, the war correspondent, pleads in the last issue of "The Week-End" for a national memorial of the services the nurses have rendered in the war. He says: "If we ever have another war, then I hope that our nurses will number hundreds where they have numbered tens this time, for they were superb, and their value was above the price of rubies. But why forget them when we are distributing honours? Why forget the statue to commemorate their splendid deeds when we are immortalising our soldiers? If I had the wealth of a Carnegie I would place a statue in London to these women as high as Nelson's, a statue to the genius of true womanhood, and I hope to see it done. I hope to see the rich and the poor subscribe to this act of justice, and not that alone, but I hope to see a college for nurses founded, an Imperial college, where the Cape Colonial girl and the Canadian girl, the Australian and New Zealand girl may meet their sister Englishwoman to study and learn how best to help their brothers when those brothers go forth to war. Such a college, richly endowed, with proper management, ought to be the finest institution that this or any other country has ever known. The women we train in peace could be used in peace for mining accidents, for plagues, for great emergencies the world over; they could be ready to stand between pain and its victims in all quarters of the earth. Nor do I think it but an idle dream. There are many great and good people in this realm who would lend themselves to such a scheme. Even our Sovereign lady, Queen Alexandra, might be induced to lend her hand to this. If so, then the Alexandra Home for Nurses, with the Alexandra Cross for those who go on active service, may yet become something more than a journalistic vision."

We agree with Mr. Hales that the work of those nurses who have done good service through the war should, and probably will, receive due recognition. There is the war medal for all, and the Royal Red Cross for those who have specially distinguished themselves. But, while recognizing the good work done for our soldiers, we must not forget that there are heroines of civil as well as of military life, nor must the glamour of war blind us to the fact that the former, as well as the latter, are deserving of all honour. In our view one of the best memorials to the work of our nurses in South Africa would be the re-organization of Army Nursing on a modern basis, and the creation of an Army Nursing Department, with a trained Superintendent of Nursing at its head, working in affiliation with the Army Medical Department. It must not be forgotten that while the price of the right stamp of nurse in time of war is "above rubies," that of the wrong stamp is considerably

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