

A Japanese Soldier's Outfit.

An interesting exhibit, on view just now at the Museum of the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall, S. W., is that of the clothing and equipment of a soldier of the Japanese Guard, which was presented by General Terauchi to Miss McCaul on her recent visit to Japan, and has been lent for exhibition by her. There are three sets of uniform, one in comfortable dark blue serge, piped with red, and with red and gold facings; then there is a khaki drill suit, with cap and protection for the neck, in the same material; the latter is arranged in three pieces, so that while it keeps off the rays of the sun, it, at the same time, allows air to circulate freely round the neck. The regulation great coat is also a comfortable, as well as a smart-looking, garment.

The winter coat of warm khaki cloth lined with sheepskin is most cosy. A special point about it is that a pair of loose gloves attached by a braid slung round the neck are always in place when required, while should the soldier desire to shoot, he can withdraw his hands in a moment. There is also a helmet furnished with a most effective veil for keeping off flies and mosquitoes, socks and sandals to replace boots for men whose feet are blistered by long marches, gaiters, a "cold proof" hood, cover for face, warm woollen gloves, cosy toe-caps for cold extremities, and most sensible-looking boots, which weigh a pound less than those provided for the British Tommy.

With the warm woollen underwear provided for him, of excellent quality, and a knapsack to carry the most necessary articles, the Japanese soldier is very well found. For miscellaneous articles, also, there is a bag which can be slung round his neck, resting on each shoulder. Much thought has, also, been given to the equipment of the soldier in the field. There is a kettle which boils when lighted tow is placed in a cavity underneath it. Compressed and preserved foods in great variety are provided for him. Amongst these may be mentioned beef, salmon trout, tunny, sardines, biscuits, pickled plums, sweet potatoes, gourds, preserved seaweed, and rice. A charming little basket is supplied to contain a ration of cooked rice.

Each man is required to carry a box of creosote pills, which are supposed to be good for dysentery, and lastly, the ticket of identification, a necessary part of the equipment in the modern warfare, which entails a wholesale holocaust, so that the relatives of the slain may, at least, have the sad privilege of knowing where those who gave their lives for their country fell.

Miss Longbottom and Miss Daniels, the Matron and Sister in Charge of the Nurses' Home of the Westminster Hospital, have sent in their resignations, to the regret of the nursing staff.

Progress of State Registration.

MISS MONK IN THE "MONTHLY REVIEW."

The present issue of the *Monthly Review* contains an article on the State Registration of Nurses by Miss K. H. Monk, Matron and Superintendent of the Nurse-training School of King's College Hospital.

The article, coming from the pen of one of the most active opponents of the Registration movement, is significant because the whole argument which runs through it proves that even those who are not in agreement with the principle of Registration realise that the present conditions are unsatisfactory, and that organisation of nursing in some form must take place.

For instance, Miss Monk says:—

"We have been told at some length by those who are agitating for State Registration that, under the present chaotic condition of things in the nursing world, the public is unprotected, and that all nurses being classed together, wearing the same dress, obtaining the same fees, whatever be the length, the system, or source of their training, the general public has no means whatever of finding out whether these women have the right to nurse or be employed as nurses, or of separating the really trained from the imperfectly trained. Let us consider what circumstances have brought about this much-to-be-regretted condition of things."

This concedes the whole position, because if both pro-registrationists and anti-registrationists agree that the above paragraph is an accurate description of the conditions now prevailing in the nursing world, it is manifest that in the general interest some steps must be taken without delay to remedy a condition of things which is not only a reproach to nurses, but which constitutes a public danger. We have then this much in common concerning the burning question of Registration. We are agreed that the prevalent conditions in the nursing world call for immediate remedy, that organisation in some form is essential. When we come to methods, there is a sharp divergence of opinion. Here is Miss Monk's view:—

"Registration is not, and never can be, applicable to nurses, nursing being a vocation or calling, and not, truly speaking, a profession. A nurse is only one of the instruments used by skilled surgeons and physicians to carry out their work, and her rôle should be that of handmaid; she must be a part of their work and subservient to their orders. As the medical profession alone is responsible to the sick for the skill and efficiency of the nurses it employs, the nurse is not self-acting or independent like her sister the midwife, who, inasmuch as her work is of a more technical character, can and does act independently of a doctor; and for this reason one is registrable, the other is not."

In this connection we must ask what is the position of Miss Monk herself as head of the Training-school for Nurses at King's College Hospital? Is

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