

was reached where the vital point was shown to be not merely the work of the Army surgeons, but also that of the Army nurses, and where further organisation was found to be necessary. What was wanted was that if—which God forbid—the machinery of war should be put into operation, their work should be done swiftly, efficiently, and unhampered by the want of any element that was necessary. One of these elements was the care of the wounded. So remarkable has been the progress in Army medical work that it has been found possible to reduce the provision which had to be made for the sick and wounded by a considerable percentage. They had been able to make a far better provision, and this presented them with a smaller percentage of men who required to be deducted from the fighting force. That is to say, they were able to restore people to their work more quickly than was possible under old conditions. A reserve of nurses has been created—a reserve of those who are pursuing the nurses' calling, and who have taken an engagement with the State to come forward and go to the theatre of war on its outbreak, there to do their part in the formation of the organisations necessary for the treatment of the sick. That has been carried out so far as the regular forces are concerned. As regards the second line, the line of home defence—the Territorial or Home Army—an endeavour is being made, and I hope before long to see it in operation, to provide there an organisation of Territorial Army nurses, who will take the same part in home defence as will be taken by their sisters who undertake to go abroad with the troops. (Applause.) These things only show what a far-reaching profession yours is. You come in at points which would not have been dreamed of by our forefathers, and I venture to think that as time goes on your opportunities will widen and others will open up before you. (Applause.) There is, I venture to think, no profession which has more scope than the profession of the highly-trained nurse.

Lord Salvesen, a Manager of the Royal Infirmary, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Haldane, said they all hoped Mr. Haldane's scheme would be a great success. It deserved to be so, because of the time and energy that had been expended upon it. If it did not succeed it would not be due to lack of constructive ability on the part of the man who planned it, but to want of response and want of patriotism on the part of the people. With the vote of thanks he associated the name of Miss Haldane as Chairman of the Nursing Committee of the Infirmary.

Mr. Haldane responded for himself and his sister, though he said he felt he should hardly do so for her in an institution so much better known to her than to him, and whose interests she had so deeply at heart.

Dr. Berry then moved a vote of thanks to the lecturers and examiners, to Miss Gill, the Lady Superintendent, and to the Sisters in each ward for their services in connection with the lectures.

A vote of thanks to the Lord Provost brought to a conclusion a most inspiring meeting. The visit of the Secretary of State for War to this splendid and national institution will be long treasured in the memories of those present. It is not often that a great statesman grasps the value of women's work or sympathises with their aspirations concerning it. Mr. Haldane's address to the nurses not only emphasised the value of practical nursing, but instructed them that to be efficient such work must be based on scientific knowledge. Thus dissociating trained nursing from mere philanthropy, he presented it as a component part of the science of health. Here is the lesson numbers of nurses need to learn.

THE LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS AT THE ROYAL INFIRMARY.

The following are the names of the nurses who received their prizes from Mr. Haldane:—

Materia Medica.—1st prize, Nurse Murray; 2nd prize, Nurse Veacock.

Surgical Nursing.—Senior Division: 1st prize, Nurse N. Reid and Nurse Addison (equal); 2nd prize, Nurse Lamb. Junior Division: 1st prize, Nurse Macfarlane; 2nd prize, Nurse Tait.

Bandaging and Instruments.—Bandaging: 1st Division, Nurse Mackenzie; 2nd Division, Nurse Whamond; 3rd Division, Nurse Alison. Instruments: 1st Division, Nurse Cripps; 2nd Division, Nurse Macfarlane; 3rd Division, Nurse Anderson.

Gynæcology.—Senior Division: 1st prize, Nurse M. A. Yule; 2nd prize, Nurse Henderson; 3rd prize, Nurse Fraser. Junior Division: 1st prize, Nurse Mitchell; 2nd prize, Nurse Balsillie and Nurse Tait (equal); 3rd prize, Nurse C. Yule.

Bacteriology.—Senior Division: 1st prize, Nurse Cripps; 2nd prize, Nurse N. J. Smith, Nurse Johnstone and Nurse Cochrane (equal); Junior Division: 1st prize, Nurse Cooper-Hunt; 2nd prize, Nurse Lawrence; 3rd prize, Nurse Hunter and Nurse Pullar (equal).

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)