

THE BARON T. ISHIGURO.

It is with great pleasure that, through the kind offices of Miss Take Hagiwara, Hon. Vice-President for Japan of the International Council of Nurses, we are able to present to our readers a portrait of Baron T. Ishiguro, Surgeon-General of the Medical Service of the Japanese Army, President of the Central Sanitary Association, a permanent member of the Red Cross Society of Japan, and a Councillor of the Red Cross Hospital, Tokyo.

Baron Ishiguro is keenly interested in nursing, and much in earnest as to the training of nurses, and has done much to improve their position. It was he who insisted, in spite of opposition, that Red Cross Nurses should be employed on active service during the wars in which Japan has recently engaged. How well the nurses justified the trust imposed upon them, all the world knows.

Shortly after the death of Miss Florence Nightingale, the Baron instituted a Nightingale medal, as a reward of merit, for Red Cross Nurses in Japan. No one may hold this medal until, in addition to gaining a three years' certificate of training, she has been a sister for two years. The medal is not awarded each year, or at any stated interval, but is the reward of specially meritorious service.

The decision as to its award rests with the lay head of the hospital, the principal medical officer, and the Matron.

On the medal there is a representation of a nightingale, a bird of which the Japanese are extremely fond.

The organization of the nursing side of the

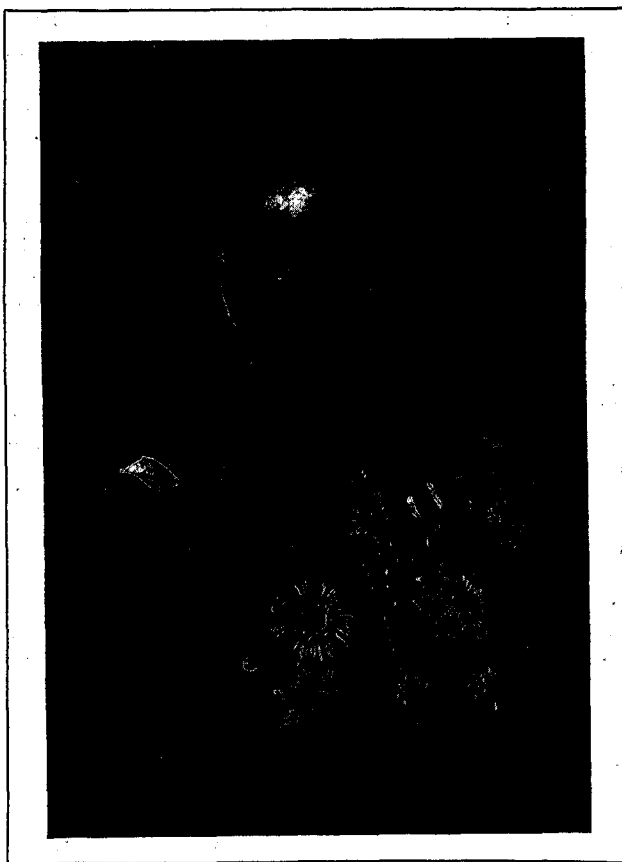
Japanese Red Cross Society is most interesting. It consists of voluntary and relief nurses. The Society collects contributions, which are generous, for the Japanese are a patriotic people, and with the funds thus available trains the relief *personnel* of both sexes in time of peace, in order to assist the medical service of the Army and Navy in war. The work is regarded as most honourable, and, stimulated by the Empress to regard nursing as a noble and honourable work, princesses of the Imperial Family and the wives and

daughters of the highest dignitaries in the land participate in it, as voluntary members.

The relief nurses are taken from among general candidates, and are subjected to special training at the expense of the Society, either at the main hospital in Tokyo, or in the hospitals belonging to its local sections, for the term of three years, during which they are called "probationers" of the Japanese Red Cross Society. They must be between the ages of sixteen and thirty, and unmarried. All belong to the middle and higher classes of society, and only those with an adequate amount of educa-

tion are admitted. They are bound by a solemn oath after graduation to remain faithful to the principles, and respond to the calls for service of the Society, any time during a period of fifteen years, from the time of graduation.

Miss Take Hagiwara, and other delegates, attended the International Congresses of Nurses in London and Cologne. Now that the International Council meets next year in San Francisco, we may hope for a yet larger delegation of nurses from Japan and other Eastern countries.



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