

of the Committee who wish to propitiate influential women in the district. Very few young women of this class wish to enter hospitals for thorough training. They are quite content with the veriest smattering of knowledge—the nurses' uniform and red cross badge, and the sentimental excitement of "nursing the wounded."

Personally, we disapprove of encouraging women of every age and temperament to rush at nursing in time of war. With efficient organization in time of peace, there is absolutely no necessity to hand over our sick and wounded soldiers to amateurs. This has been demonstrated lately in the mobilization of the Navy and Army Nursing Reserves, and the Territorial Force Nursing Service, and the highly-trained volunteers who can be called up at a few hours' notice, are ready to meet every emergency. We condemn without hesitation the "superintendence" of the nursing departments of military hospitals, financed by public subscriptions, by untrained peeresses, and lesser social lights; and consider that the Army Medical Department should prohibit any such unprofessional arrangement. We do not find peers of the realm foisting themselves into the position of Army Medical directors in military hospitals, immediately War is declared. Why, therefore, should their wives and daughters be permitted by the War Office to assume serious responsibility for the nursing of sick soldiers, for which they are not qualified? This insufferable patronage, of a skilled profession, should be entirely eliminated from every Nursing Service, where the valuable lives of the Kingdom's defenders are concerned. Skilled nurses are finding the greatest difficulty in getting to the front, and yet many society women are there masquerading in their professional uniform.

Nurses are now realising how invaluable is a knowledge of French, and several classes have been started to help them. A class is just closed at the Midwives Institute, and Miss C. Everett Green is holding classes free to nurses who have volunteered, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, from 8 to 10, at 5, Carlisle Mansions, Carlisle Place, Victoria Street. This is a very kind contribution to nursing the wounded, upon the part of Miss Everett Green.

During the bombardment of Malines by the Germans, the good Sisters were turned into the streets. We are indebted to the *Ladies Pictorial* for the use of this block.

A Sister who saw service in the South African War, found the following items specially useful for the comfort of the patients: Soft towels for use on tender parts, fine diaper preferred; small cushions filled with bran, not too tight, for relieving pressure; small feather pillows for head injuries; small soft squares, for use during

feeding; soft squares for laying on pillows under head and limbs where there may be discharge coming through dressing; flannel covers for hot water bottles; day shirts always wanted; there are never enough, so that all soldiers who come into hospital for small dressings without shirts shall have them supplied.

The medical profession consider the necessity very urgent of inoculation against typhoid fever for all, including nurses, sent to the front. We hear that many nurses have taken precautions both by being inoculated and vaccinated.

It is announced by the *Pacific Coast Journal of Nursing* that on account of War in Europe Her Majesty Queen Eleanore of Bulgaria has postponed establishing a training school in Sofia, and Miss Helen Scott Hay, who was to have sailed for Europe last month, has now been appointed by the American National Red Cross to superintend the first group of American nurses assigned to Red Cross duty in Europe. It is hoped the "Red Cross" Hospital ship will sail at an early date.

#### THE QUEEN'S CANADIAN HOSPITAL.

The Canadian War Contingent Association have made an arrangement with the Army Council through the Queen's Committee of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, to equip and maintain for twelve months a hospital of 50 beds, with power to increase it to 100 beds or more for the general use of His Majesty's Forces.

By special permission of Her Majesty, it is to be known as "The Queen's Canadian Military Hospital."

We presume it will be nursed by Canadian nurses, many of whom are most anxious to offer their services.

#### PATRIOTIC CANADIAN NURSES.

When war seemed inevitable, the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses, through its President, Miss Wright, New Westminster, B.C., and its Secretary, Miss Gunn, Toronto General Hospital, offered its services in case of need. Sir Robert Borden wired his appreciation and thanks. Every Provincial Association of Nurses was notified of the action of the National, and in a very short time 1,000 Canadian Nurses have demonstrated their patriotism by enlisting. Naturally, the National Association is deeply gratified by such a hearty response to its call.

The nurses are anxious to go with the Canadian troops overseas. Only 100 can be accepted, and preference has been given to 40 applicants who have already taken the training of the Army Medical Service.

It is proposed to establish two general hospitals with 500 beds each, at the bases; two stationary hospitals, with 200 beds, nearer the front; and a clearing hospital. There will be 32 nurses at each general hospital.

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