

Misses A. H. M'Nicol, S. A. Louise, C. M. MacLean, E. T. Hegan, M. A. Cummings, M. B. Hubbs, L. F. Boyd, E. Pierce, C. M. Motherwell, E. M. Armstrong, E. Boulton, O. Boulter, B. Laveragan, M. Rosse, K. Shaw, and Mrs. A. M. Spalding.

Misses M. J. Dickinson, G. Billyard, G. E. Stalker, C. J. Douglas, C. E. Mallory, M. H. McGill, M. Howe, L. Lynch, S. Ferguson, I. Willis, A. M. Mills, F. Armstrong, C. E. Cameron, M. Cameron-Smith, K. G. Clark, H. Dougharty, C. Drew, M. M. Ellis, C. Malby, A. McKay, C. G. Nixon, C. C. Raymond, J. Robley, E. Sullivan, and J. Wishart. Many have gone to France, to relieve the nurses who have been working among the wounded for months.

#### ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

The following are among those who will go to the Front with the McGill University General Hospital in April. They have been selected from a large number of applicants from the General and Royal Victoria Hospitals, and will undergo military training at the Quebec Hospital.

Misses M. Lindsay, A. Clark, M. E. Austin, L. Pidgeon, E. Leslie, H. Sewell, K. Mackay, J. Glendenning, S. Robertson, M. Wright, M. Bliss, A. McDiarmid, S. Chisholm, H. Macdonald, and E. Bradley.

#### GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Misses A. Morewood, E. J. Griffin, M. J. Fortescue, M. Clark, A. M. Cooper, E. N. Whitley, C. Gass, L. M. Gray, A. M. Tate, M. MacDermot, V. E. Sampson, L. N. Gillis, E. D. Handcock, J. E. Mann, and A. K. McLeod.

The *Sunday Pictorial* tells the following story:—“The Grand Duke Nicholas turned a lot of the smart women nurses back. He said when he met them: ‘If any of you wish to nurse the officers rather than the men, please say so.’ All who said so were packed off like naughty children by the next train to Petrograd. And the Grand Duke was right.”

The Paris correspondent of the *Sunday Observer* evidently keeps his eye on nursing affairs and reports this week that:—“The Minister of War has hit upon a clever plan of improving amateur nurses. He has issued a circular in which he says that the different categories of nurses and helpers in a hospital are to wear the veils proper to their class. For instance, the first class (connected with the administration of the hospital) must wear blue veils; the second, or certificated nurses, must wear white; while the third class, composed of benevolent ladies of excellent intentions, but of no professional training, must wear the grey veil. There is no suggestion in the circular that the amateur nurse must qualify or leave her work; the intimation is much more subtle than that, and none of the fair Parisiennes who have been so proud of wearing the Red Cross badge will like to wear the grey veil, sign of inferiority. Thus by an order which, on the face of it, is banal enough, M. Millerand has brought his nursing staff to the pitch of perfection.”

## THE FRENCH SOLDIER AND THE BRITISH NURSE.

War—the long-dreaded European War—broke out with a sudden crash.

Women do not fight, but they can work as auxiliaries; as such their help has been invaluable.

The nurse, who in times of peace, like poor Tommy, has to take a back seat, in time of war becomes a valuable national asset. Military, Territorial, and Red Cross Voluntary Aid Nursing were already defined. The work of the Military Nursing Service and its Reserve was to nurse the British soldier, as required, at home or abroad, the Territorial Force Nursing Service to provide the Nursing Staffs for the 23 General Hospitals located in England and Scotland, to be called up in the event of the mobilization of the Territorial Force, the Voluntary Aid Organisation to supplement the Territorial Medical Service in the event of war in the Home Territory. But the natural impulse of all was to go to the Front. Our men disappearing into the Unknown, the stillness in England became intolerable.

Thus it was that fully-trained and semi-qualified nurses as well as “Voluntary Aid ladies” came forward with the greatest zeal. In this article I wish to refer to those who went to nurse our French Allies.

From an English point of view nursing the French Army has been as full of interest as of difficulties, even to those of us who spoke French, had lived in France, and worked in its hospitals. How much more so to those who had never crossed the Channel and whose knowledge of the language dated from the outbreak of the war. In time of peace the genius, *esprit* and *joie de vivre* of the French make them the most popular nation on earth. In time of war they become transformed, incomprehensible.

In order to understand our French patients, let us look into the organisation of their Army. It has gone through several changes since the last Empire, when Conscription was compulsory (but when conscripts could be bought out). A few alterations have also taken place since the war began with regard to age limitations. Roughly speaking, this is the present position, viz., three years' service, age 20-23.

1st, *L'Armée active*, those who at 20 years of age were undergoing their three years' service any time before the war began.

2nd, *L'Armée réserviste*, those who had had their three years' service, age 23-35.

3rd, *L'Armée territoriale*, age 35-45.

4th, *Les territoriaux réservistes ou auxiliaires*, 45-49.

When the war first began 47 was the age-limit for auxiliaries, but for a time older men had to give their services until the younger men were called up from 18-20 years of age, viz., what are now known as the *Classes Quatorze, Quinze, et Seize* (1914, 1915 and 1916). This means that boys of

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