

"A medical ward which contained acute cases, such as enteric, pneumonia, &c., was in charge of a young man who has a fashionable tailoring business in Paris, with untrained girls to help him. Previous to this charge he was helping in the lingerie, and lamented to me having unskilled women to help him. In France we see and criticise these things, and wonder at them, but how about things at home. I return to find the same class of untrained Englishwoman going to the Front, hospitals dominated by them. Surely something can be done to stop this abuse, as there are plenty of trained nurses willing to devote their skill to the wounded. In France it is different. Trained nursing as we understand it has so far made very little headway.

"In looking over a journal this week I see portraits of ladies of title in nurses' uniform who have presumably appointed themselves matrons in hospitals, posts which should be filled by trained nurses of experience. How necessary all this disorganisation makes it to bring in a Registration Bill.

"During my private nursing days I often asked a lady of the house to assist me, and seldom found one willing to do so. The invariable answer was, 'Oh! I couldn't nurse. I can never do anything like that.' These ladies always send for a trained nurse for their own people, yet they are considered good enough for our poor soldiers. Surely the War Office cannot be aware of how widespread this system has become, or it would never be sanctioned."

Nurse Underwood, who for many years was the Night Superintendent of St. John's Hospital, Lewisham, is amongst those nursing in Lady Sykes' Hospital, Dunkirk, where all the patients are of French nationality. Writing to the Sister-in-charge of St. John's Hospital Nurse Underwood states that arrangements are being made for the ambulance to go to the firing line to bring the wounded direct to hospital. So eager are the nurses to undertake this hazardous work that they draw lots to decide who shall go. At present the ambulance train from the battlefields arrives at Dunkirk about midnight, and the hospital ambulance meets it. Everything (she says), is very expensive. Butter is 2s. 6d. a pound, and very scarce; and fresh milk is hardly procurable. One night (writes Nurse Underwood), 500 French soldiers were sleeping in a church at Lampernisse, a village between Perisyse and Dixmude. A German spy in the belfry gave the signal and the place was shelled. Sixty of the soldiers were killed and over a hundred wounded. "We had five in. They were all the beds we had to spare. Three died the next day. The other two were very bad indeed. One boy, only twenty, has both hands blown off with the exception of the little finger and thumb. I had to set my teeth hard the first time I changed the foment. He has also a wound in his head, and a big wound in his shoulder. I am afraid he will die." However, in a subsequent letter, Nurse Underwood states that he is getting along well.

THE CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

The King and Queen have given much pleasure to sick and wounded men from the front by kindly visits paid to them in hospital. During the past week Their Majesties have visited the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth, St. John's Wood, St. George's Hospital, W., Mrs. Arnoldi's Private Hospital in Roland Gardens, and spent most of last Saturday at Brighton, where the wounded of the Indian Expeditionary Force both at the Pavilion and at York Place received marked attention. In the afternoon a visit was paid to the 2nd Eastern Territorial General Hospital at Dyke Road and at Kemp Town, and many of those who support and are attached to these hospitals had the honour of being presented to the King and Queen.

THE SPECIAL HOSPITAL FOR OFFICERS.

A few weeks ago we commended to our readers Lord Knutsford's appeal in the press for a special hospital for officers home from the war suffering from nervous breakdown, and it is with pleasure we are able to state that the executors of the late Lord Rendel have placed a suitable house at Lord Knutsford's disposal (10, Palace Green, Kensington), and that the donations he has received have justified its being opened.

On arrival one is ushered into a charming oak panelled hall, equipped with furniture as unlike that of the ordinary hospital as possible.

The reason is not far to seek, for like the piper, Lord Knutsford has played seductively, not on musical instruments, but with pen and ink—in the manipulation of which he is a past-master—in the press; and the public has responded, one with a large round table which suits the hall to perfection, another with a Chesterfield couch, and yet others with deep-seated luxurious arm-chairs. It is really quite easy to furnish on nothing if only you know the way, and the way is to the hearts of the public, inducing them to bring out things which they will gladly give or lend for the benefit of the sick and wounded when once they know their gifts will be appreciated. The delightful sitting room, in which the patients can receive their friends, has been furnished in the same way. The shallow staircase is covered with green carpeting, harmonizing admirably with the general scheme. Of course money has had to be expended on furniture for the wards, as the needs of such wards for proper hospital beds and a few necessary articles of furniture are much the same all the world over. Very dainty and attractive they look with the freshest of white muslin window curtains; and will, no doubt, prove very havens of rest and peace, soothing to the mental as well as the physical senses of many a gallant officer.

The patients—of whom thirty-five can be admitted, all the wards except one being single ones—are already beginning to come in. They are sent by the War Office. The Matron is Mrs. Cousins, who has had special experience in the care of nerve cases. At present the nursing staff numbers six, three trained nurses and three

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