

together, and more especially in camps or billets of new recruits. These young men fresh from home have not learned the wisdom of the experienced soldier, and do not know how to deal with the many small ills which must arise from their complete change in conditions of living.

The work done by the London County Council School Nurses such as is done at the Minor Ailment and Treatment Centres, is in many respects similar to that which would be useful in connection with the soldier.

The Sanitary Sister should in addition to being a certificated nurse hold the certificates of recognized examining bodies in hygiene and sanitary science.

I have much pleasure in seconding Mrs. Fenwick's proposition (1) that a Sanitary Nursing Service should form a section of the Sanitary Medical Service of the Army; (2) that an Imperial Mothers' Council be organized, representative of every branch of women's Social Service for the Army.

In support of the latter half of the Resolution Miss Pullen-Burry, F.R.G.S., spoke on "Our Earthly Heritage," Mrs. T. Chamberlain, Hon. Secretary, Agricultural and Horticultural International Union, and Miss Helen Colt, on Food Supplies, and Mrs. Hathaway Turnbull on help for wounded horses and the Blue Cross Society.

In a few concluding words Mrs. Fenwick referred to the practical value of Dr. Murray Leslie's most sympathetic address. She was very glad to know that he had sounded a military authority on the subject of Sanitary Sisters. She was not at all surprised to hear there might be difficulties. She had never yet known a moment opportune for the adoption of new ideas, but if the principle of the formation of a Sanitary Nursing Service for the Army was accepted she believed it would materialize.

The Resolution was then put from the Chair and carried unanimously.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Baillie Reynolds for her kindness in presiding and to the speakers was carried.

Between the meetings Mrs. Walter Spencer entertained forty members of the Council to luncheon at 2, Portland Place, W., who greatly appreciated her kindness. The tables were beautifully decorated with white and yellow flowers, and as usual the most abundant hospitality was extended to every guest.

As we go to press we have received from the Edinburgh Committee of the British Red Cross Society (Scottish Branch) through its Personnel Committee, of which Mr David Wallace, C.M.G., F.R.C.S.E., is Hon Secretary, a list of appointments of nurses which we hope to publish next week.

The Personnel Committee, 2, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, would be glad to receive further applications from nurses willing to undertake War Service. Names should be sent to the Convener.

## NURSING AND THE WAR.

Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians has graciously signified her pleasure in accepting a copy of Miss Violetta Thurstan's book, "Field Hospital and Flying Column."

The party of Nurses requisitioned by the Countess of Carnarvon arrived at Alexandria on May 26th, and were met and most kindly welcomed by her. Many of the party have been taken over by the War Office, and are working in a large hospital of 1,100 beds at Alexandria, caring for cases from the Dardanelles, others are on transport duty on a hospital ship. The work is very strenuous, and at this time of year, of course, the heat is very trying. The patients are mostly Australians, and it is needless to say "they are all very plucky, enduring heat, flies and terrible wounds without complaint." No one needs now to be told that the Colonial troops are perfectly splendid in every way—"real gorgeous chaps," we have heard them described—and their nurses are of the same fine stuff.

A Sister writes from South Africa: "I have been on active service for the last nine months. . . I have enjoyed the JOURNAL so much since the War started, as we seem to get such a clear idea of the terrible state of things in Europe. Our campaign out here has been a picnic in comparison to that at home, but I am thankful, as there is enough bloodshed in Europe, without spilling it out here. The men have had their trials, too, as they camped for months in the sandy desert with very little water, and an intense heat raging and dust-storms blowing. We have been in Luderitz-bright all the time, where we had three hospitals latterly, a surgical hospital built by the Germans on Shark Island, and two medical hospitals which were respectively in an hotel and a drill hall. . . I should love to go and help in Europe, but it is a long way at one's own expense; but there is talk of sending a contingent. What fine work the women are doing with the Armies, and what heartrending scenes they must go through!"

Indeed they do. One Sister writes from the base in France: "Of course we are never supposed 'to weep with those that weep,' but I have attended so many glorious deaths, and seen so many heartbroken fathers and mothers, that, although I try to swallow all the tears I can, they will brim over sometimes, and drip about. I suppose I am not really suited for this kind of thing; it is too, too tragic; and yet patients and people seem to cling to me, in spite of my puffy cheeks and red nose. The fathers are *tremendous*; they just sit or stand so still, watching their sons struggling with death or passing quietly from this life. One poor stoical old thing said, as I covered the face of his dead son with the sheet: "Your tears have relieved my dead heart." Of course,

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