

"At the Endsleigh Palace Hospital for Officers," she replied.

"Oh! *there*; I have heard such terrible things of the nursing staff."

"What things?"

"Well, that the Sisters were found with the doors locked in the patients' rooms."

"What an infamous untruth! On the majority of floors there were *no doors*; and on the third floor, where there were doors, there were *no keys*—simply revolving handles, by which the doors could be opened inside and out."

The nurse was not engaged.

Dirt sticks: Keep clear of the dirt, is our advice to our colleagues.

At the meeting of the Birmingham Board of Guardians last week the Infirmary Committee presented a report dealing with the position of probationers at the Dudley Road Infirmary. It appears that when that Infirmary was handed over to the military authorities 110 probationers there were accepted for service at the salary allowed for V.A.D. workers appointed to serve in the hospital. The Army Council, however, stated in a communication dated November 2nd, that it was intended poor law probationers should be paid at their previous rates. On the recommendation of the Committee the Board strongly protested against the proposal to pay V.A.D. workers, with little or no previous experience, at a higher rate than the poor law probationers, and we think every sensible person will consider their protest just.

The Sisters working on the transports and hospital ships in the Mediterranean and Aegean seas find their work extremely interesting. One writes: "We made two trips to Mudros Bay on an ordinary transport ship with iron decks and few conveniences for a hospital. The men lay everywhere—on mattresses and stretchers, on the decks, and below. We were not registered or painted as a hospital ship, consequently we travelled either with lights out, or the port holes closed. Later we were sent on a beautiful boat belonging to one of the great steamship companies. After our transport it was all very luxurious. She had been converted into a proper hospital ship with large wards full of swing cots, and with properly equipped theatres, &c. We arrived at Anzac at 5 a.m. during a big engagement which lasted five days. The wounded started coming on board at once, and all day and night and the next day they came in hundreds until at last boat loads were turned away to try other hospital ships which were just as crowded as we were.

"We were equipped for 520, but we soon had over 1,100 on board, the slightest cases were lying everywhere on the decks, but most seemed to be severely wounded. They were all so brave and patient. At our first stopping place we landed

some and then went on to Malta with 824. We worked literally day and night, only taking about two hours' rest out of the twenty-four.

"At Malta the landing arrangements were perfect, although it was necessary to land them in boats. It was all done so quickly, with no hitch, and with as little discomfort to the patients as possible. The next day we were off again, but there was no rest for the staff; everything had to be cleaned, beds made, stacks of dressings cut and splints padded.

"This time we went to Suvla Bay where the new landing had been made, and again we heard the deafening crash of guns, and the distant rifle firing. Shells burst in the water quite close to us, and we were actually under fire. A trawler sank immediately in front, and at night large shells burst like a magnificent display of fireworks. This time we had 624 men aboard, mostly English; the difference in the physique and condition of these, and the fine Australians of the previous journey was very marked. Our men had evidently worked in mines or factories before the war, and the hard life and exposure on the Peninsula had told on them very much.

"After this, to our sorrow, we were called in by the B.R.C.S. to help staff their hospital at Mont-arzah Palace, which was the summer residence of the late Khedive. It is an ideal spot on the sea shore with a beautiful harbour and about 600 acres of ground with fruit, pine, and blue gum trees. If only there were grass instead of sand it would be perfect.

"The heat during the summer months was appalling, but now it is delightful, and days are warm and sunny, nights cold."

NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

A Quiet Day for Prayer and Meditation, in connection with the Nurses' Missionary League, will be held on St. Andrew's Day, Tuesday, November 30th, at St. James' Church, Piccadilly, by kind permission of the Rector. It will be conducted by the Rev. Geoffrey Gordon, of St. Margaret's, Westminster; and the general subject for addresses will be "Thy Will be Done." The following is the time table: Holy Communion, 8 a.m. and 9.15 a.m.; *Morning*, 10-12.30 Morning Prayer; Address, "The Conquest of Obstacles," "The Motive," "The Need of Help"; *Afternoon*, 2-15-4.30, Address, "The Rule of God (1) In Our Hearts, (2) In the World"; 5.30, Shortened Evening Prayer; 7.30-8.30, Intercession with Address by the Rector, the Rev. W. Temple, M.A., on "The Nation and the Kingdom of God."

Mr. Gordon will be in the Church from 12-15-1 and from 1.45-2.15, to give further help to any Nurses who wish.

Leaflets, giving the full time table, will be supplied by the Secretary, Miss H. Y. Richardson, 52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W.

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