

NURSING AND THE WAR.

THE WOMEN'S MATERNITY UNIT FOR RUSSIA.

We have pleasure in publishing in this issue a portrait of Dr. Beatrice Coxon, one of the doctors in charge of the Women's Maternity Unit for Russia, and formerly House Surgeon at the Alnwick Infirmary, Northumberland. Dr. Coxon with her colleague, Dr. Mabel May, have seen service in Serbia with Mrs. St. Clair Stobart's unit, both being decorated with the Order of St. Save for their devoted service in that country.

Our other portraits are of Mrs. Elizabeth Armstrong, one of the nursing members of the unit, and of Miss Anne Hutchinson, who, in addition to being a trained nurse is also a fully-qualified Sanitary Inspector well known in York for her work in this connection, and also for Infant Welfare.

The unit took with them 1½ tons of clothing, 1¼ tons of drugs, and 18 cwt. of bandages. With the drugs are included milk foods of various kinds, as there is great difficulty in procuring these in Russia. A quantity of clothing sent was the gift of the National Union of Trained Nurses.

The "Protectrice" of the maternity hospital, which will deal with refugees, is the Empress Alexandra—a title preferred in Russia to that of Czarina—and the Lady Georgiana Buchanan, wife of the British Ambassador is President.

It is hoped to extend the work of the hospital by a large outpatients' department, which is most sorely needed.

As an instance of the work done, a Russian Sister picked up a baby on the banks of the Dwina. They called the child Dwina and fostered and looked after it, and after a while it was sent on to the Foundling Hospital, which has been set apart in Petrograd to take little lost refugee children.

There is a great deal of sickness amongst the refugees. They suffer from rheumatism, lung trouble, and pleurisy, and amongst the children there is often infectious illness. Much of all this is due to the terrible hardship and starvation

endured on the way. It is greatly hoped to extend the work to other centres; the next place will probably be Gatchina, about thirty miles from Petrograd, where it is proposed to have an Infant Care centre. There are as many as fifteen hundred children in a single barrack, and of these two or three die every day. It is high time for women to put forth their efforts in this and other similar districts.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies are attempting to raise £5,000 to keep the first unit going for six months, and although part of this sum has been generously contributed, there is a great need for other immediate donations.

Communications to be sent to the Women's Maternity Unit for Russia, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.



DR. BEATRICE COXON,
WOMEN'S MATERNITY UNIT FOR RUSSIA.

Miss Earle, the Matron of the Third Northern General Hospital (T.F.) has been appointed Matron of a hospital which is to be sent overseas, probably to Egypt, next month, and Miss M. J. Connell will act as Assistant Matron. The staff will consist of 75 Sisters and nurses.

A number of New Zealand nurses, the Matron and nursing staff of the hospital ship *Marama*, are just now in London, enjoying a few days' leave on the termination of their voyage from Alexandria with nearly 500 patients—English, Scottish and Welsh, and a few New Zealanders.

The *Marama* was equipped by various towns in New Zealand, the Mayors making themselves responsible,

and gifts came pouring in. Before leaving the Dominion the medical and nursing staffs were received by the Earl and Countess of Liverpool, and the Earl decorated the nurses with shoulder cords of his own colours, green and maroon, the Corps being known as the Earl of Liverpool's Own. While the ship is in harbour the ward decks are being covered with linoleum, which is more easily kept clean at sea than scrubbed boards.

The many friends of Miss Florence W. Pritchard, Superintendent of the Queen's Nurses Home, in Hull, who has been working in Serbia under the British Red Cross Society, and is now in the hands

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