

NURSING AND THE WAR.

The King held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace on the 23rd ult., and the following ladies had the honour of receiving the Royal Red Cross (First Class) from His Majesty: Miss Sarah Swift, Mrs. Corner, Miss Effie Roberts, Mrs. Furse, the Viscountess Esher, and Lady Oliver.

We have pleasure in publishing the portraits of two notable Matrons who have recently received the decoration of the Royal Red Cross from the King: Miss Melrose, Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow; and Miss Steele Innes, Matron of the General Infirmary, Leeds.

Miss Janet Melrose, R.R.C., the well-known Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, received her training in that fine nursing school under Mrs. Strong, and after holding various positions of responsibility, was appointed Matron, and all who know Miss Melrose will realise the wisdom and success of this appointment. It will be remembered that during her tenure of office the Infirmary has been practically rebuilt, and that the new building was opened by the King a few years ago. The duties connected with the supervision of the Nurse Training School, as well as of the domestic department of the great institution would fully occupy most people, but Miss Melrose, as Principal Matron of the 3rd Scottish General Hospital (T.F.) at Stobhill, keeps all the threads of that work in her hands also, and is frequently at the hospital, and withal finds time to show most charming hospitality and courtesy to the stranger within her gates. Miss Melrose is well known to the nursing profession at large, as she attended the International Congress of Nurses in Cologne in 1912, and so came into contact with representative nurses from all over the world.

Miss E. Steele Innes, R.R.C., is the Principal Matron of the 2nd Northern General Hospital at Leeds. Miss Innes was trained at the General Infirmary, Leeds, where she subsequently held various positions of responsibility. She was then appointed Assistant Matron, and later Matron at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, returning to the General Infirmary, Leeds, as Matron on the resignation of Miss Fisher. Miss Innes has been

a Principal Matron in the Territorial Force Nursing Service since its foundation.

Mrs. Alec Tweedie, in spite of her own grief for the loss of a dear young son at the front, is still interesting herself in her Hut Scheme, which has grown apace. She has received various contributions from nurses, and now suggests that if nurses in hospitals and institutions will each subscribe 1d. and send her the result to 30, York Terrace, Harley Street, W. (cheques crossed London County and Westminster Bank, marked "Nurses' Fund"), she thinks it would be a very good idea when sufficient money had been collected to put up a Hut for our fighting men and call it "The Nurse."

So many more Huts are still required that it would be possible to name some after particular towns, fallen soldiers, or groups of workers like the Farmers, the Navy, the Nurses, the Boiler-makers, or the Leather Workers.



MISS JANET MELROSE, R.R.C.,
Principal Matron, 3rd Scottish General Hospital.

decoration.

Miss H. B. Hanson, M.D., who has spent six months in Serbia, chiefly at the Scottish Red Cross Mission at Kragujevatz, gave some of her impressions at the Royal Society of Arts, on the 23rd ult. One of her most poignant memories was the death of Mrs. Percy Dearmer. She said: "After Mrs. Stobart had been out some weeks an epidemic of typhoid ran riot amongst us. Seventeen of our members contracted it, while three died. Amongst these latter, an irreparable loss both to her personal friends and to the world at large, was Mrs. Percy Dearmer.

"This illness was not considered so infectious as typhus, so we were allowed the use of the cathedral for the funeral. Most graciously we were permitted to use the English service in one instance, and the fact that an Anglican service

Miss Maude Blakely (Queen Alexandra's Imperial Nursing Service) has been appointed Assistant Principal Matron in France. Miss Blakely has had considerable experience of army nursing, having served in Egypt and elsewhere. Prior to the War, she was a Matron of a military hospital in Cork. She has seen a great deal of service in France, and was mentioned in Viscount French's first despatch and also in his last despatch, while she has also been awarded the Royal Red Cross

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