

the most awful explosions, and the ship shook frightfully. Until we managed to get on deck we thought we were being shelled, as we were lying amongst the cruisers and quite near the Flagship. When we found it was an air raid we did not feel quite so alarmed. Being on hospital ships is a very expensive luxury; we only get our bare salary—£42—and sometimes it costs us 2s. a day to get ashore. The ship won't provide a boat to take us . . . so I have not been able to save any money since being here. The Sisters in Alexandria get field allowances, but we didn't in Malta, and also the Sisters on hospital ships who are put in in Alexandria get it. Half the Sisters on the boat I was on were getting about £12 a month, and those who were put on at Malta and doing exactly the same work got less than £4 a month. Surely that is unfair; it causes dissatisfaction."

Naturally, we should imagine, it does. Equal pay for equal work should be the rule throughout the Service.

We hear that the hospital ship *Egypt*, "somewhere at sea," was struck by shells from a Zeppelin. All the glass on one side of the ship was broken, and a great deal of damage done; one piece of shell hurtled through the window-frame of a Sister's cabin and out at the top of the next cabin; fortunately, she was stooping to put on her shoes, so she escaped injury from the shower of glass and water. The shells exploded about twenty yards from the ship and no one was hurt. How narrow is the space between life and death!

Two young men, sons of German parents, who have been naturalised British subjects for nineteen years, recently successfully claimed exemption from combatant service, when the elder said: "My eldest sister was in the St. John Ambulance Brigade at the beginning of the War, and became a nurse at Huddersfield Military Hospital. When it came out that her parents were German, although she got on well with patients, she was insulted and asked by the Matron to resign, as it would be for the good of her country that she should not be there. If my sister was not good enough to do a work of mercy, why should they call upon us to fight or do anything for them."

## FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Miss Florence Mary McLoughlin, cert. St. George's-in-the-East Infirmary, left for France on Monday, March 6th.

The donors of the iced cakes kindly contributed through the "Shower" will be glad to know they arrived in perfect condition, thanks to the skilled packing of Miss Hawkins.

Owing to the increased fighting in France, pillows, towels, socks, shirts, clinical thermometers, hot water bottles and indiarubber air or water cushions are most urgently needed.

An air cushion is worth its weight in gold in relieving suffering. If sent to the Editor, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., these goods can be dispatched at once. We want a handsome consignment for Miss McMurrich and Miss McIntyre, who are with a surgical ambulance. Canadians please note.

The old ladies at Barnet Union are very anxious to knit some more socks for the F.F.N.C., but, sad to relate, they have no money to buy the wool. Will anyone confer the double benefit of making them very proud and of adding to the never-sufficient supply of socks for soldiers at the front.

## SALE OF ANTIQUES.

The second Sale of Antiques at Christie's, for the British Red Cross Society and the Order of

St. John, promises to be a great success. The King has presented a magnificent panel of Chinese embroidery of yellow silk adorned with the dragon and emblems of the Imperial House; while Her Majesty gives two jewelled bracelets which she has worn.

Queen Alexandra has sent a fine Chinese dish which belonged to King Edward, and Princess Louise (Duchess of Argyll) has sent an inlaid ivory and ebony writing-case and two autographs.

The Queen, attended by the Lady Isobel Gathorne-Hardy, visited the Jewish Maternity Home in Underwood St., Whitechapel on Monday.



MISS PHOEBE STEELE, R.R.C.  
MATRON AT MOUNT VERNON MILITARY  
HOSPITAL, HAMPSTEAD.

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