

NURSING AND THE WAR.

Miss Ruth E. Darbyshire, Principal Matron of the Second London General Hospital (T.F.) upon whom the decoration of the Royal Red Cross (First Class) has been conferred by the King was trained at St. Thomas' Hospital where she held the position of Sister in the Operating Theatre, and Sister in the Isolation Block. She was then appointed Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Derby, a position she held for four and a half years when she returned to London as Matron of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington. She is a member of the Mansion House Committee of the Territorial Force Nursing Service for the City and County of London, and on the declaration of war she mobilized the nursing staff of the second London Hospital at St. Mark's College, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.

A picture of Miss M. A. Harvey, R.R.C., appeared in our issue of May 20th. We are informed that she was trained at the General Hospital, Bristol, not at the Royal Infirmary as stated. A friend writes: "I am delighted to hear of Miss Harvey's success, but also wish my own and her training school to get its laurels."

A silver "medal of honour" for nursing zymotic diseases in connection with the French Army has been awarded to Miss Dell, an English nurse attached to the Military Hospital No. 49 at Vichy.

Two thousand English and French hospital nurses will shortly visit Switzerland for three weeks to recover from the effects of prolonged hard work. Over two hundred Swiss hotels have undertaken to board and lodge them gratuitously for that period. The first contingent is expected to arrive in the Canton of Valais on June 26th.

The hospitals nursed by maternity units sent to Russia by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, or the British Women's Union as it is known in Russia, are henceforth to be known as "The Millicent Fawcett Hospitals for Refugees in Russia." Mrs. Fawcett is the president of the National Union. There have been several recent

developments of the work. In addition to the maternity hospital, now in full working at Petrograd, doctors and nurses are being hurried to Galicia to work behind the lines, and to Razan to fight cholera and smallpox.

Mrs. Laurie, Mrs. Wallace Williamson, Mrs. B. Russell, Miss Kemp, Mrs. Fred Salvesson, and Mrs. Walker, of the Scottish Women's Hospital, for their services rendered to the sick and wounded, have been admitted by the Crown Prince of Serbia to the Order of St. Sava (Fifth Class).

Miss M. E. Feild writes from Petrograd:—

"In Russia, although you see no wayside crosses or Calvaries, still the cross is everywhere; each market has its chapel, sometimes so small that only the priest can find room inside; most of the bridges, if they have no chapel actually upon them, have a church as the first edifice on the land, and every new building has a rough cross at one corner dominating the scaffolding, and only taken down after the house has been blessed; therefore it is not surprising that each regiment or unit going to the front has a special blessing to speed it on its way. Sunday, May 28th, was the day chosen for the service of blessing the unit starting for the front from the Anglo-Russian Hospital in Petrograd.

"We got our cards of invitation the day before, and punctually at 2.30 the ceremony began. The unit was

collected in the garden of the page corps, the most famous Russian military college, to which are only admitted the sons of soldiers who are considered to have served their country well. There were three motors, given by the Scottish Red Cross, and a train of small wagons and carts, all arranged by the side of the drive with the Russian soldiers of the unit. We got there just as the choir were struggling into their vestments, and the portable altar was being brought out, then the Grand Duchess Marie Pavlovna came, attended by Lady M. Paget and the English ambassadorial party. The service took place in a round, gravelly place, surrounded by tall trees in the centre of the garden, and the singing was very good, only hardly loud



Photo]

[J. Russell & Sons.

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