

NURSING AND THE WAR.

The King held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace on Saturday, January 15th, when amongst those severally introduced into the presence of the Sovereign and invested with the Insignia of the respective Divisions of the Orders to which they have been admitted were a number of recipients of the Royal Red Cross, principally Principal Matrons, Matrons and Sisters of the Territorial Force Nursing Service, who will be cordially congratulated by their colleagues on their well-deserved honours, and whose names appear in another column.

Our portrait is of Miss M. S. Riddell, the well-known Matron of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, and at present Matron of the Second London General Hospital (T.F.), St. Mark's College, Chelsea, who, on Saturday last, was decorated by the King with the Royal Red Cross. Miss Riddell was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and before being appointed Matron of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, was Assistant Matron at the University College Hospital, London. Miss Riddell regards the recognition conferred upon her as an honour to all the nursing staff of the hospital, as she considers its success largely due to the loyal support and help she has received from those working with her.



MISS M. S. RIDDELL, R.R.C.

We are glad that the War Office has withdrawn its order regarding the restriction of the pay of Poor Law Nurses engaged in Poor Law Institutions, which have been converted into military hospitals. With an extraordinary lack of insight, it insisted that probationer nurses should only be paid at the same rate as they were receiving as poor law probationers; while those introduced from outside, with no previous training, were paid on a higher scale. For the future, the nursing staffs are to be paid on the same scale as that adopted in the ordinary military hospitals.

The doctors and nurses of the Japanese Red

Cross Relief Corps who have been working at Netley Hospital, were present last week at the Hall of the Japan Society. The nurses gave an interesting demonstration of their work, and Dr. Suzuki, the leading medical officer of the corps, gave a lecture on "The Japanese Red Cross," when Colonel Sir Wyndham Murray presided, and the Japanese Ambassador was amongst those present. They left Japan on December 19th, 1914, and arrived in Liverpool on January 22nd, 1915. Dr. Suzuki spoke with gratitude of the reception accorded them, and referred to the "fatherly care and charming smile" of the commandant at Netley. When they arrived they could not speak English, and did not understand British customs; but they had been so well received and treated that they could not but feel sad at leaving. Their stay, originally arranged for six months, had been extended to twelve.

News has been received in Swansea that Nurse Clement, of Landore, is amongst the British Nurses taken prisoners by the Bulgarians. Another Welsh nurse, who was with Miss Clement, and who was one of those who took part in the great trek, conveyed the news to her parents, together with the consoling information that the nurses are being well treated.

Amongst the passengers on the P. & O. ss. *Persia*, torpedoed without warning in the Mediterranean, were Sister M. J. Molbaut, Sister M. Raulin, Sister C. Adens, and Sister S. Scholer. On enquiry

at the company's office we learn that nothing has been heard of these Sisters, and it is feared that they are amongst the lost. They were going out to India as Dutch missionaries, to do nursing work.

We are asked to state that the Hon. Secretary of the Rest Room at Southampton, arranged for Army Nursing Sisters from hospital ships when in port, to which reference was made last week, is Sister Gee Wainwright; and the full address of the room is the White Rose Café, 153, High Street (below Bar). The Treasurer of the Café is the Hon. Mrs. Eliot-Yorke.

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