

while the ladies who had become thoroughly trained before War broke out were asked to do the work of scrubbing floors and cleaning kitchen ranges. . . . When the Red Cross authorities set themselves to do two things—(1) utilise the services of thoroughly trained V.A.D. nurses for the special work for which they have been trained, *viz.*, ambulance and sick nursing, and (2) see to it that those who devoted years to this work before the war are treated more favourably than those who took up this work as a 'war vogue' for fashionable and society reasons—they will have no difficulty in securing the services of most of the V.A.D. nurses whom they had trained but are not yet utilising."

"A Territorial Nurse," on the other hand, writes of the V.A.D.s "that they are treated as general servants is untrue. They do the work of a probationer and no more. They have certainly been taught a certain amount of sick nursing. They can bandage and bandage well, on a sound limb, but on a limb that is smashed or even inflamed, it is often necessary to apply a bandage that would not appear pretty or correct to an examiner either of V.A.D. or hospital-trained probationers. . . . I have [worked with V.A.D.s in Red Cross hospitals, where they do not receive a penny for their labours, also with V.A.D. probationers in the Territorial hospitals, where they are paid £20 a year, more than double the salary an ordinary probationer in hospital receives. I have found them generally very willing and helpful, and can honestly say they could not be done without in such a time of need—as probationers. Some of them have the making of very good nurses in them, but it would take more than War hospital nursing to train them. They are willing to do all they can, and do greatly assist in Tommy's welfare and recovery. But I maintain that they have no right to the title of sick nurse, and in the interest of our brave and wounded men none but a trained hand should dress their wounds or apply splints."

### OUR ROLL OF HONOUR.

We last week recorded the death of Nursing Sister Jessie Ritchie, of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve, who was attached as Sister (not Matron) to the twenty-first Stationary Hospital at Salonika, and who died of dysentery after three weeks' illness.

The Royal Infirmary, Dundee, which was her training school, as well as the nursing profession as a whole, may be proud of the record she has left behind.

The Matron of the hospital wrote recently from

Salonika: "She has done such good work out here, her services have been invaluable; she never spares herself, and her patients' comfort is her first consideration. When she was considering signing on for another year, I begged her to consider before deciding whether she could stand the extreme heat and cold of this climate, but she assured me she could, and that the camp life suited her better than any other." In a later letter, the Matron stated: "She has been one of my best and most loyal workers, devoted to her work and her patients."

One who knew her wrote in a contemporary: "The gracious 'Lady of the Lamp' had no worthier claimant to a share in her illustrious lineage. The same grace, the same devotion, the same utter selflessness characterised the life-service of



The late SISTER JESSIE RITCHIE, Q.A.I.M.N.S. Reserve.

Sister Ritchie. To have numbered her in one's circle of friends is a privilege that redeems life from much of its sordidness. The Army Nursing Service to-day is sadly poorer by her death, but what an incentive her beautiful memory is to all that is best in British womanhood! I met her last autumn, before she left for the East. She was busy despatching gift-parcels to some of the 'boys' she had left in hospital at Havre. And she was specially proud of having secured sufficient funds to send out an organ to brighten the winter evenings and keep the orderlies from wandering to the town."

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