

NURSING AND THE WAR.

Somehow we never think we realise sufficiently or half appreciate the glorious work and successes of the South, West and East African campaigns—the War in Europe is so much closer to us. Not so long ago, the Governor, H.E. Sir Henry Belfield, General Botha and staff, paid a visit to the General Hospital, Muthaiza, Nairobi, where they were entertained to tea by the Matron, Miss J. McLeish, and the Sisters. We have some delightful snapshots recording this visit, and the famous general between the Matron and a laughing Sister, appears to be well satisfied with his reception—as shown in our picture.

The main buildings of the hospital are beautiful,

and devotion as working in a ward. Moreover it is not every woman who has the tact and brightness to make a success. We paid a visit recently to Miss Annie Hulme, who for some months past has been running the Soldiers' Hut in the grounds of the Fulham Infirmary. It is nice to find just the right woman in the right place, and those who know the sympathetic and ardently patriotic Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council will realise that the guests who visit these pleasant rest rooms are fortunate indeed. Miss Hulme lives on the spot in tiny wee rooms. She is early to rise and late to take rest, and her daily helpers are full of zeal. The difficulty in the management of such huts with a canteen attached is that one really experienced worker is required to act as



HIS EXCELLENCY SIR HENRY BELFIELD, MISS MCLEISH (Matron), GENERAL BOTHA AND SISTERS.
AFTER TEA—GENERAL HOSPITAL, MUTHAIZA, NAIROBI.

as are the grounds; attached is a "white city," containing 900 beds under canvas, with excellent tent operating theatre and other departments.

We are delighted to learn that "THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is a great comfort to us here." These little "bolts from the blue" make up for hours of drudgery.

Is it true that many women are getting weary of well-doing their war work? We hope not, though there are still thousands who do but little. Help in canteens is an urgent necessity, both for our soldiers and women workers. People talk as if to run a Soldier's Hut or a canteen was quite easy work, but this is a misconception. The work, especially of the superintendent, is very arduous, and requires quite as much energy

substitute for the lady-in-charge, to sleep on the spot, and help with accounts and other business details; and these are not easily procurable unless they are paid. We sampled the excellent confectionery and tea sold at the buffet—everything a penny—delicious buns, Banbury cakes, bulls-eyes and chocolate. Tea of course is the usual drink, but medical cases have an abnormal thirst for Horlick's Malted Milk, both hot and cold. The patients begin coming at 9 a.m., and come and go all day. In the central lounge are most comfy couches and armchairs, books and writing materials, a piano, billiard tables, and plenty of games. There is also a rest room, where those men requiring a real quiet time can enjoy it, and also a noise room, where exuberant spirits can let off steam. This work fits Miss Hulme like a

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)