

Miss A. M. GILL, R.R.C., Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

Miss E. C. BARTON, R.R.C., President, Poor Law Infirmary Matrons Association, and Principal Matron No. 3 London Territorial General Hospital.

Viscount Knutsford has withdrawn from the Committee, owing to inability to attend the meetings for some time.

The terms of reference are as follows:—

The committee have been appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the resources of the country in trained nurses and women partially trained in nursing, so as to enable it to suggest the most economical method of utilising their services for civil and military purposes.

It should be noted that the Committee have no power to deal with applications for employment.

It will be recalled that on September 15th the War Office announced the appointment of the following Committee:—

Mr. W. BRIDGEMAN, M.P., Chairman.

Viscount KNUTSFORD Chairman London Hospital.

Sir FREDERICK TREVES, Bart., Consulting Surgeon, London Hospital.

Hon. FRANCIS CURZON.

Mrs. FURSE, Commandant-in-Chief of the Voluntary Aid Detachments.

Captain HAROLD BOULTON, Member House Committee, London Hospital.

Mr. E. W. MORRIS, House Governor, London Hospital.

This Committee was originally announced as having been appointed to consider the existing system of obtaining nurses for the hospitals for sick and wounded at home and abroad, and to make such recommendations as it may consider necessary for augmenting the supply.

It will be noted that all interests are represented excepting those of certificated Sisters and nurses—the rank and file of the nursing profession, who may be termed the workers, and it will be further noted that the terms of reference specially provide for suggesting “the most economical method” of utilising the services of trained nurses and women partially trained. We wonder what a male profession would have said to Mr. Lloyd George had he ventured to ignore the right of labour to a voice in its own economic organisation and disposal. Only serfs are so treated, and THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING claims that British nurses are free women.

#### TRUE TALES.

*Relative visiting hospital mortuary where fatal accident case has been taken.*—“Don’t she look comfortable? Well, I do call this a comfortable place. Nobody need mind coming here. Well, she do look more comfortable than I have ever seen, her before!”

*Patient in considerable pain.*—Doctor enquires how he feels to-day. *Patient*: “Oh, I’m suffering something crool. I’d rather be in ‘eaven.”

## THE QUEEN ENCOURAGES MEDICAL WOMEN.

The opening of the Medical Schools on Monday and the visit of the Queen to the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women are events of the highest significance. Once persecuted and despitefully used, medical women have now been encouraged to prosecute their humane labours for the benefit of the community. Queen Mary never did a better day’s work for the people than in declaring the new buildings open and wishing the school all success.

## NURSING AND THE WAR.

As we go to press we learn that no more trained nurses are to be permitted to leave the country for foreign service in France, and they are to be stopped by the Anglo-French Committee of the Red Cross—which is to be given power to withhold the Anglo-French certificate, without which trained nurses may not cross to France. The War Office has been asked under what law the new regulation has been issued, but, so far, no reply has been received.

In an inspired communication on the nursing question, which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* on September 25th, the writer—evidently an advocate of the College of Nursing—makes the following statement:—

“Before the War the nursing profession was acutely divided into two camps. There was that large and increasing body who were demanding the State Registration of Nurses of three years’ training, and who succeeded in getting a first reading of a Bill to this end through the House of Commons by a majority that convinced even its opponents that the matter had reached a stage calling for respectful consideration. On the other hand were those who still held that two years in the wards would make an efficient nurse, and that registration would not afford any guarantee of a woman’s capabilities. On both sides were honourable protagonists, each fully convinced that they represented the real feelings of the profession and the public alike.

“The demands of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, in addition to those of the Army, the Navy and the Territorial Nursing Services, with the reserves they have attached to themselves, have, however, thrown a new light upon uncertain factors, and a new situation has loomed into view. Added to this is the problem of the members of the Voluntary Aid Detachments, possessed of considerable nursing experience after their months of assistance in the military hospitals, and to the value of whose services the Matron-in-Chief herself bears emphatic and unstinted testimony. In scores of cases, they

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