

CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

It is understood that arrangements are being completed to use the large buildings known as the Kitchener Hospital on Race Hill, Brighton, exclusively for Australian soldiers. The hospital when first taken over by the War Office was used exclusively for Indian soldiers.

The convalescent camp at Shoreham, close to Brighton, is being occupied by Canadians, and will in course of time be given up to them wholly.

An anonymous shipowner of Cardiff has given £5,000 towards the establishment of a Welsh branch of Queen Mary's Convalescent Auxiliary Hospitals.

The immediate sum aimed at to provide the Welsh Hospital is £20,000, towards which Colonel Lynn Thomas who is one of the hon. consulting orthopaedic surgeons at Roehampton, has already received two contributions of £5,000 each.

Mrs. Gwynne Holford was, we are informed, the founder of Roehampton Hospital, and she now devotes the whole of her time to the work of the institution, from which no fewer than 2,838 men have already been discharged, fitted with the most modern artificial appliances.

The special correspondent of *The Times*, writing from British Headquarters in France, says:—"Extraordinary accounts are given of the dug-outs themselves. One of these subterranean barracks was fitted up most excellently as a hospital and dressing station. They say that the stock of drugs and instruments found in it was extremely valuable, including supplies of drugs which we have difficulty in getting. Among those who surrendered in Thiepval was a German Army doctor with a staff of 20 men—a whole medical unit—and they turned to and did good work for our wounded in this underground hospital. This, like the other dug-outs in the place, had every evidence of being intended—as it had been—as a permanent habitation. They are all wired for electric light, though the current seems not to have been on, and are in every way fitted up like any house.

"The assistance rendered by the 'Tanks' in the capture of Thiepval has already been told, but one of the machines served also a useful purpose afterwards, for where it straddled a trench it gave sufficient shelter to house an emergency dressing station underneath its belly, where our wounded received first treatment before they could be taken to the hospital underground.

"And again in this connection I would emphasize what I said before as to the magnificent behaviour of the stretcher-bearers. It is an old tale, but daily I sympathise more and more with the commanding officer who told me that every stretcher-bearer and every one of his runners deserved the V.C."

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

A FLOCK OF SHEEP.

The following is a specimen of letters which are being sent by hospital matrons to nurses who have left the hospital, and it proves how entirely many of them ignore the professional responsibility of certificated nurses:—

Dear Nurse———,—You have doubtless read with interest the accounts in the nursing papers of the College of Nursing, which has just been founded. Its main objects are: (a) the organization of the nursing profession—a crying need; (b) the protection of the interests of trained nurses; and (c) for that purpose, State Registration.

The Council of the College has drafted a "Nurses Registration Bill," which provides that the Register of the College of Nursing shall be the first Register under the Act. It is, therefore, important that all certificated nurses should at once apply to be placed on its register, and I strongly advise you to write at once for a Form of Application for Membership—enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope.

The address is: The Secretary, The College of Nursing, Ltd., 6, Vere Street, Cavendish Square, London.

The fee for registration and membership is £1 is.

You will like to know that our Committee is in thorough sympathy with this movement, and it recommends our nurses to apply at once for membership.

Very sincerely yours,

————— Matron.

It will be observed that the nurse addressed is not invited to enquire into the constitution of the Nursing College in any way. The lay committee, through their matron, recommend "our nurses" (no longer on their staff) "to apply at once for membership." All they have to do is to write at once for a Form of Application for Membership, fill it in, pay their guineas, and no further meddle therein! It seems almost incredible in these days that the intelligence and personal responsibility of one member of the profession can be so absolutely ignored by another!

We have received quite a number of similar "orders" addressed to certificated nurses, which they deeply resent—we think with justice.

Without exception, the signatures of the writers of these letters have been appended to every Anti-Registration manifesto issued for the past decade.

Surely the very highest purpose of professional organisation and status is to foster a keen professional conscience and sense of personal responsibility in each individual, so that they may be worthy servants of the sick, and valuable citizens. It is highly indecorous that certificated nurses should be treated like a flock of sheep.

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