

NURSING AND THE WAR.

Queen Alexandra has become patron of the Edith Cavell Homes of Rest for Nurses, and has written the following letter to the chairman of the council now engaged in collecting funds: "I have heard with great pleasure of the project which has been started to provide homes of rest for nurses who are temporarily unable to carry on their duties owing to the stress of work brought on by the war. I am sure our sailors and soldiers will be gratified at knowing that an opportunity has been taken of showing national recognition of the labour of the nurses who have broken down in their efforts to alleviate the sufferings of the sick and wounded in the war."

The Secretary of the War Office announces the following changes in the personnel of the Supply of Nurses Committee:—

Sir Frederick Treves, Bt., G.C.V.O., resigned membership, and the following new members are appointed:

Fleet-Surgeon R. W. G. Stewart, R.N., nominated by the Admiralty.

Miss A. MacDonnell, R.R.C., representing the Irish Nurses' Association.

Sir Frederick Treves has therefore followed the example of Lord Knutsford in retiring from the Committee.

We heartily congratulate the Irish Nurses' Association upon obtaining direct representation for Irish nurses on this Committee, set up by the War Office to ascertain the resources of the country in trained and partially trained nurses,

so as to "suggest the most economical method of utilising their services for civil and military purposes."

So far the request that English nurses should be represented on the Committee and have a voice in the disposal of their own lives and labour has received no answer from the War Office.

Scottish nurses have taken no action in the matter, which involves very serious problems for working women. We suggest that both English and Scottish nurses' organizations should communicate with the Secretary of State for War on this question, and refuse to be treated like dumb cattle. If it were a question of conscription

for all women, as for men, we should be the first to urge obedience, but thousands of idle, self-indulgent women are at large, squandering money on fine clothes, cramming the most exclusive restaurants, gambling, and otherwise disporting themselves; and arduous

workers like trained nurses, who before and since the war have expended their lives in honest toil for the good of the community, have a right to be treated with respect. Surely Mr. Lloyd George cannot ignore the precepts of a life time in this connection.

Miss Bertha Broadwood, the hon. secretary and director of the Cottage

Benefit Nursing Association, writes to the press that the "War Office Committee" has asked the C.B.N.A. if it can supply women to nurse our soldiers in hospitals and convalescent homes! Of course, the Association is quite willing to undertake the responsibility.



EGYPTIAN WOMEN WATER-CARRIERS.



FLOODS ON THE NILE.

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