

## NURSING AND THE WAR.

His Majesty held an investiture at Buckingham Palace on December 6th, at which Miss Annie Wilson, acting-matron of the Army Nursing Service, was decorated with the Royal Red Cross of the First Class.

Sister Janet Frewin, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Nursing Service, and Miss Margery Burn, Nursing Staff Universities' Mission to Central Africa, were decorated by the King last Saturday, with the Royal Red Cross (second class).

Sister A'druenna Tupper, Canadian Nursing Service, on whom the King recently conferred the Royal Red Cross (2nd Class), comes from Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. She graduated from the General Hospital, Concord, New-haven, and has an excellent nursing record both in England and France. Both her husband and father are dead.

Two of the three British Red Cross nurses who were decorated by the King at the same time, are attached to Graylingwell War Hospital, at Chichester. The recipients are Mrs. André, wife of Mr. J. E. F. André, a medical practitioner of Sidlesham, and Miss Wallington.

The War Office announces that it has been decided to increase the pay of all members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve and the Territorial Force Nursing Service, who, having completed twelve months' service, are willing to sign an undertaking for general Army service for as long as required.

The pay of V.A.D. and special probationers in military hospitals staffed by Queen Alexandra's Imperial Nursing Service or the Territorial Nursing Service will also, after they have completed six months' approved service, be raised from £20 to £22 10s. per annum, and, provided they are willing to sign an undertaking for general Army service for so long as necessary, they will be eligible for further half-yearly increments of £2 10s. up to a maximum of £30 per annum.

In addition, the board and washing allowance of all the above classes has been raised by 4s. a week.

This is very good news so far as skilled nurses are concerned, as the decreasing of allowances has been the cause of much dissatisfaction. Personally, we are of opinion that V.A.D. probationers are already well paid for their unskilled work. They will, at £30 per annum, be paid the salary of many highly experienced certificated hospital Sisters.

The risks run by nurses working in infectious hospitals, and the good work done by them, often passes unnoticed, partly, no doubt, because it is hidden away from the public view, and we are therefore glad to give prominence to the recognition received by Sister Willans, of the City Hospital, Walker Gate, Newcastle-on-Tyne, of her devoted care of cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis. The hospital has been used by the military authorities for their infectious cases since shortly

after the declaration of war, and Sister Willans has had charge of the ward for patients suffering from cerebro-spinal meningitis. During this period over 100 certified cases, besides many carriers, contact, and "query" cases, have passed through her hands.

Dr. Kerr, M.O.H. for Newcastle, has received a letter from the Colonel commanding the Northern troops, stating that Sister Willans' work has been brought to his notice from more than one source, and that many patients who have recovered owe their lives to her skill and devoted attention, given without regard to personal danger and fatigue.

At a full meeting of the Sanitary Committee, Sister Willans was warmly congratulated on this recognition of the work she has accomplished, and the Committee

presented her with a testimonial and the sum of five pounds. Her salary has also been increased to the ward sisters' maximum.



SISTER WILLANS.  
CITY HOSPITAL, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

It is reported that the Supply of Nurses Committee have, in their interim report to the War Office, recommended the establishment of a central hostel where young women, anxious to undertake nursing work under a contract during the war, but without hospital experience, can live, receiving lectures in the hostel, and, if possible, attending for daily work as probationers in civil hospitals and infirmaries.

The proposal has received the favourable consideration of the War Office, who hope, with the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)