

HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention:—Miss L. C. Cooper, Miss F. Friend, Miss J. Macintyre, Miss E. James, Miss M. Frost.

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

What methods have you seen employed for the treatment of infected wounds, and with what results?

NURSING AND THE WAR.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

At the Investiture held by the King at Buckingham Palace on July 11th, the Royal Red Cross (second class) was conferred by His Majesty on Miss Florence Price, Miss Jessie Burns, and Miss Caroline Robinette.

The great "push" has necessitated tremendous efforts being made in our war hospitals during the past fortnight, and trained nurses are in very great demand—indeed, they are at a premium, and unfortunately many of those engaged in private work do not appear able to stand the strain of busy hospital work. We hope, however, that every nurse in the land will realise what she and her country owe to the shattered men home broken in battle from France, and that she will work till she drops as they have done, in relieving the sufferings of sick and wounded men. Nothing but physical inability should prevent trained nurses from taking their part in military hospital work during these days of national stress. The majority will, we feel sure, "wire in" and do their utmost.

The unit of Japanese Red Cross nurses which has been working at the Astoria Hospital in Paris for fifteen months, passed through London on their homeward journey to Japan last week. They have greatly enjoyed their work, but long for a sight of the Flowery Land. Safe journey to these deft and gentle little Sisters.

Sister Mary Angela, Senior Nursing Sister of the Hospital of SS. John and Elizabeth, St. John's Wood, has been decorated by the King with the Royal Red Cross (second class), in recognition of her services to the wounded. "We agree," says *The Tablet*, "with a correspondent who writes, 'I should have liked to be there to see that nun go up before the King.'"

Verily, from the Premier downwards, the male sex are making some marvellous discoveries about women during this war. *The Red Cross* says: "One of the surprises of the war has been the aptitude women have shown as masseuses at the war hospitals. 'The results have surpassed our expectations,' said an R.A.M.C. Captain, 'the women showing that they have plenty of strength and a decided aptitude for the work.

Thanks to their efforts, thousands of soldiers have recovered the use of injured arms and legs, weeks or even months earlier than otherwise would have been possible.' What has the I.S.T.M. to say to this?

Under "V.A.D. Notes and News," *The Red Cross* notifies V.A.D. workers that for nursing members there is an alteration in age limit. That for foreign service is now from 23 to 42, while special service members are accepted for home service between the ages of 21 and 42.

Members are again emphatically reminded of the necessity of conforming to the details of uniform laid down in Regulations, and that they should take pride in keeping their uniforms clean and tidy. The V.A.D. uniform is registered under the Defence of the Realm Act, and must not be worn except for work on behalf of the sick and wounded. It is hoped that the issue of a Joint Certificate of uniform will prevent the illegal use of the registered uniform, and also the wearing of uniform by members who have resigned or left their Detachments. This certificate must always be carried by a member in uniform, and must be produced on demand by any competent authority. It must be returned to the Commandant upon leaving the Detachment.

To judge from some extraordinary "get ups" we have seen, this reminder is timely, especially as persons wearing a colourable imitation of a V.A.D. uniform may be cast into gaol and sentenced to hard labour by any uncontrolled police magistrate.

We did invite a Court official to bring the arbitrary Woolwich sentence to the notice of the King, but were, alas! referred to the Home Office. Needless to say we did not waste a penny stamp on seeking mercy for a poor, maybe, vain and misguided woman masquerading in nursing uniform from such a prosaic source. But we think all the untrained "persons of quality" who wear the trained nurses uniform should be subject to like punishment. Perhaps if professional nurses ever obtain the protection of State Registration, for which they have been pleading for a quarter of a century, a protected state uniform may be one of the privileges an Act will confer upon them. But to be compelled to carry a Certificate of Uniform would certainly be somewhat irksome. A Registration Badge named and numbered, as issued to "registered nurses" in New Zealand and in Australia, meets the case, and is greatly appreciated by the recipients.

The new quarters of Queen Mary's Hostel for War Nurses, 40, Bedford Place, W.C., leave little to be desired, either in comfort or brightness. Mrs. Kerr Lawson—before all things—is a homemaker, and makes it her boast that at the hostel there is never a rule broken, for the simple reason that there is not one to break. Blessed freedom!

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