

Miss M. Taylor evidently did not believe in sumptuary laws. "You cannot tell any woman she cannot wear any kind of cap or dress. I don't think the uniform makes the nurse. Respect your own cap and do not wear it indiscriminately," was her advice.

The President said that it was the many objectionable things done by those assuming their uniform which caused reflection on nurses. The idea of a registered cap found some favour. We opine that it will have to be very becoming to be universally adopted.

If when our Nurses Bill becomes law it provides for the protection of a "registered nurses'" uniform, just imagine the all-night sittings necessary to debate such a vital issue before the question "be now put"! Whatever else may be done behind closed doors, be sure the whole profession will expect to express an opinion on a matter so all-important as the cut of a collar, the shape of an apron or the colour of a gown, to say nothing of the outdoor suit.

THE KING EDWARD VII ORDER OF NURSES.

The Report of the King Edward Nurses, South Africa, from April 1st to December 31st, 1915, shows that good progress has been made with the consolidation of this Order, which was organized as a South African Memorial to commemorate the life and aims of King Edward VII. The nursing organization is intended to comprise two divisions, (a) European, (b) Coloured and Native, the funds and organization of the two being kept apart. The immediate object of the Order is to make good deficiencies now existing in South Africa. These apply to sick and injured persons who can pay but cannot obtain the services of nurses, to those who can pay in part, and those who cannot pay at all; and as experience has shown that the efficiency of nurses collected at a centre under experienced supervision is far higher than in the case of an equivalent number of single nurses assigned to districts, centres will be established as far as practicable.

The report of Lady Buxton, Chairman of the Executive Committee, states that Miss J. E. Pritchard, the Lady Superintendent of the Order, has continued to do valuable work, and by her tact and business ability has assisted the advancement of the Order in spite of the grave difficulties occasioned by the inadequacy of the staff, and the inability, mainly due to the circumstances occasioned by the war to recruit additional members.

Miss Brailsford's appointment as Senior Nursing Sister in Charge of the Ladysmith Centre has proved a very great success. Her personal character and professional ability have considerably enhanced the reputation of the Order in the neighbourhood served by the Ladysmith Centre.

The members of the Order generally have worked most satisfactorily and have cheerfully borne the many hardships and inconveniences inseparable from the exercise of the nursing profession in the country districts of South Africa.

A supplementary report states that the question of the pay of the nurses has been under the consideration of the Executive. Enquiries have confirmed the view which had been advanced that the salary offered by the Order was inadequate to attract fully-qualified nurses in South Africa, and it has been decided to increase the rates. The commencing salary of the nurses is now £96 per annum, rising to £120, and of Senior Nursing Sisters (or Matrons) £120 per annum, rising to £144.

Miss Pritchard, in her report, says that the shortage of trained nurses has seriously hampered the work and prevented expansion. She hopes that the higher rate of pay now sanctioned may bring more suitable applicants. She reviews the work in the various centres, mentioning that the native nurse sent to De Aar location has been at work nearly a year, and this side of the work promises to be a great boon to the natives, and she looks forward to a large and increased sphere of usefulness as time goes on.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRONS.

Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund, Convalescent Home, Droitwich.—Mrs. M. Pilkington Brown has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Borough Hospital, Birkenhead and Liverpool Maternity Hospital, Liverpool, and has been Assistant Nurse at the City Hospital, South Liverpool, and has done private nursing in Liverpool and Wallasey, and has been Matron of the Auxiliary Military Hospital, Frodsham. She is a certified midwife.

Infirmery and Dispensary, Warrington.—Miss Annie Strachan has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Helen's Hospital, has held the positions of Staff Nurse and Sister, and is at present Matron of the Wallasey Cottage Hospital, Cheshire.

Bailbrook House Private Asylum, Bath.—Miss M. Hiney has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Asylum, Edinburgh, where she held the position of Night Superintendent.

SISTERS.

Nelson Hospital, Merton, S.W.—Miss Grace C. Petherick has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Chester, and has held the position of Night Sister at the General Infirmary, Stafford, Ward Sister at the Park Hospital for Children, Hither Green, Lewisham, and Night Sister at the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool.

City Hospital Annexe, Higher Lane, Fazakerley, Liverpool.—Miss Louisa Poole has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Southampton Isolation Hospital, the Allt-yr-yn Hospital, New-

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