

NURSING AND THE WAR.

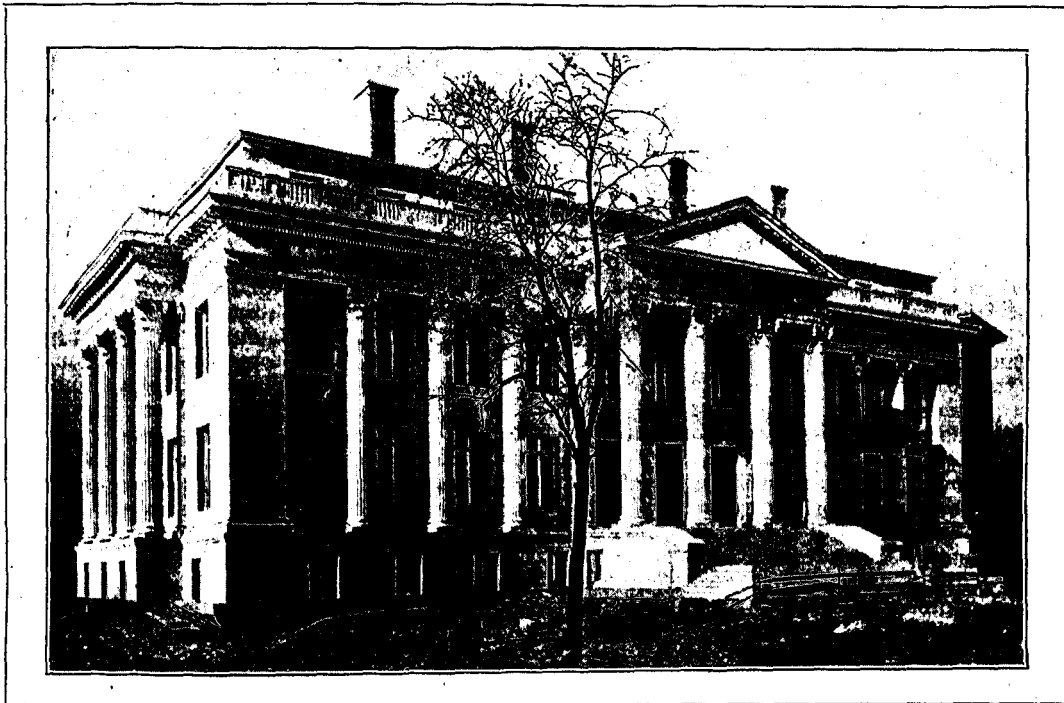
On Saturday last the King bestowed the Royal Red Cross on the following ladies at Buckingham Palace. After the ceremony Queen Alexandra received them at Marlborough House, an honour the Matrons and Sisters greatly appreciated.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

FIRST CLASS.

Matron Mabel Tunley, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Matron Violet Nesbitt, Canadian Army Nursing Service; and

Service with an experienced trained nurse Director at its head—Miss Jane A. Delano, R.N. There is a National Committee on Red Cross Nursing Service, of which the Nurse Director is Chair; and only graduate nurses are eligible as "Red Cross Nurses" in the States. All volunteers attached to units are termed "nurse helpers," and work entirely under the direction of the trained nurses. Some 7,000 graduate nurses are now enrolled ready for emergency service in war, beyond the highly organized Army Nurse Corps in connection with the War Office. Social influence, through which untrained women are placed in positions of authority over trained nurses—like our V.A.D. Commandants—is not permitted in the U.S.A.



NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, WASHINGTON.
A Memorial to the Heroic Women of the Civil War.

Matron Frederica Wilson, Canadian Army Nursing Service.

SECOND CLASS.

Sister Kate Read, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve; Sister Florence Hunter, Canadian Army Nursing Service, and Sister Florence Godfrey, Civil Hospitals.

Before the war, whilst for years the Matrons' Council was pleading with the British Red Cross Society to organize its nursing department on professional lines, without the least success, the American National Red Cross Society was putting its house in order. It organized on a right professional basis, with a Bureau of Nursing

Republic, as the skilled care of the sick and wounded soldier is the paramount consideration of the State, as it should be in every country where true patriotism exists. The personal vanity and love of power of socially influential women, and the snobbery of those who kow-tow to them, has run riot in Europe during the war, and no doubt we "professionals" must wait until peace comes before attempting reform. Anyway, America has once more proved that efficient professional organization can alone be obtained by professional control, and we feel sure that "Tommie" will give us a helping hand in the reorganizing of emergency military nursing, when he returns to civil life.

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