

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE NURSING RECORD
EDITED BY MRS BEDFORD FENWICK

No. 1,537.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1917.

Vol. LIX.

EDITORIAL.

BARBAROUS WAR ON THE WOUNDED.

We have it on the unimpeachable testimony of eye-witnesses at the front that the bombing of hospitals by the Germans is done deliberately, that helpless sick and wounded are thus murdered in cold blood, and doctors, nurses, or other humane people liable to share their fate. These atrocities have been going on for some weeks. German prisoners confess that the night raids on places which shelter wounded are the result of a general German order. Of three hospitals, attacked lately, at a great distance from the front, two were American, we believe, the St. Louis and the Harvard; at the latter one officer of the American Army Medical Corps was killed, and three were wounded, and five members of the staff were also wounded—besides 10 patients, two of the latter having since died.

The hospitals were bombed of deliberate purpose, and it is at least likely that the American hospitals were specially selected, as the United States took over half-a-dozen big hospitals for the British immediately their country declared war. Surgeons and nurses of exceptional skill came to our help. Our sympathy for the loss of American men of science, whose sole object was the saving of life and the easing of pain, is therefore sincere, and we grieve with their friends and their country.

The following table gives some idea of these ruthless attacks on the defenceless, although it by no means includes the whole:—

July 27.—French hospital near Vaux. Two doctors, a chemist, and a nurse killed.

August 16 and 17.—British casualty clearing stations. Ten wounded Germans killed and nine others wounded again.

Three doctors and three women nurses wounded.

August 20.—Three hospitals near Verdun. Staff attacked with machine-guns while trying to extinguish the fires. Twenty-two killed, 53 wounded.

August 21.—British casualty clearing stations.

September 4.—One British and two American base hospitals bombed. An American doctor killed, twenty people wounded, including eight Americans and ten patients. Raiders also killed thirty-seven German prisoners and wounded forty-three.

September 4.—Vadelaincourt and other hospitals near Verdun, shelled every twenty minutes for four hours. Nineteen killed, twenty-six wounded.

It is almost incredible that a race of people, professing to be civilized, is still extant in Europe in the twentieth century, capable of such cowardly and cold blooded murder.

But what of the invertebrate of our own race who would touch their blood-stained hands in amity, until they have been purged by just retribution and made to realise their guilt?

These poor effete creatures also need to realise that the pure blood of our magnificent manhood shall not be poured out in their defence whilst they stand their equals before the law.

To the glory of Canada it has been given to administer this lesson. In its new War Franchise Bill it is provided that conscientious objectors, and naturalised aliens shall be disfranchised, whilst the mothers, wives and sisters of the country's protectors shall have the vote—this is sound common sense.

No Pluck, no Power. No government by cowards and aliens. Let the red blood of the righteous rule. Had this been our policy in the past, there would have been no war.

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