

CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

Following her recent visit to the General Military Hospital, Edmonton, Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll has handed to Colonel Mort £100 for the use of the wounded troops.

On the occasion of the visit of the King to Greenock, Mrs. Laurie, hon. treasurer of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and Miss Etta Shankland, one of the organisers, had the honour of being presented to His Majesty. The King asked several questions about the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and seemed greatly impressed when Mrs. Laurie told him she had been able to raise close upon a quarter of a million of money for the work.

Knit, knit, knit—that is what the Director General of Voluntary Organizations wants every woman to do in her spare time; winter is approaching, and socks, vests, mufflers, helmets, are needed in enormous quantities for the troops on the various battle-fronts. Get good patterns and send your contributions to the Voluntary Organizations Depot in your district, or to 45, Horseferry Road, Westminster. We don't seem to hear many needles clicking these days.

Also Sir Douglas Haig states that from 75,000 to 100,000 books are needed weekly to meet the needs of the troops. He writes:—

"Those who have not visited our Armies in the field can scarcely realise what books have meant to the men. Any movement to increase the circulation of literature has my whole-hearted support."

Everyone who has books and magazines to spare should send them to the nearest post office whence they will be forwarded to the Camps Library, which will distribute them abroad.

The Joint Committee's Red Cross work costs £60,000 a week, or £6 a minute! According to the *Times* every effort must be made to make "Our Day" on October 18th an immense success all over the Empire, and ensure a liberal and universal response to the appeal. At present there is an average weekly deficit of £20,000, which relies upon "Our Day" to make good a round million. There is just a note of warning that this huge expenditure should not for the future be exceeded.

The Minister of War (says *The Modern Hospital*) has decided to replace all soldiers employed in the Italian military hospitals as nurses, servants, &c., by women. It is expected that from the 500 or 600 military establishments not less than 20,000 soldiers will be made available to be sent to the front. Later on, the men of the regular hospital corps in the hospitals of the interior of Italy will also be replaced by women and sent to the military hospitals at the front.

BRITISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL COMMITTEE AND THE NURSING PROFESSION.

In reply to enquiries, we have received the following reply from Miss May Whitty, in reference to the paragraph which appeared in the *Daily Sketch* on September 12th, and which caused great indignation amongst trained nurses who value their professional status and economic independence:—

British Women's Hospital,
21, Old Bond Street, W.

Dear Mrs. Bedford Fenwick,—The paragraph which appeared in the *Daily Sketch* of September 12th, to which you refer, was brought to the notice of this Committee a few days ago. It was misleading as to facts and unauthorised as an announcement of the Committee's intentions. It was at once contradicted in a letter to the Editor.

The outlines of the scheme are still under consideration, and you may rest assured that as soon as they are completed you will receive official intimation of our intentions.

Yours sincerely,

MAY WHITTY,
Chairman.

As any scheme dealing with the educational and economic conditions of nursing can only be acceptable to the organized nurses if they have had an opportunity of expressing their expert opinions concerning it, we may hope the British Women's Hospital Committee, which is entirely a lay organization, will avail itself of the wishes and considered opinion of the nursing profession before interfering with its independence.

POOR-LAW NURSES AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association of Poor Law Unions, held in London on Thursday, September 20th, the Parliamentary Committee reported on the action taken on the proposed Nurses' Registration Bill of the College of Nursing, Ltd. The report stated that the Hon. A. Stanley, M.P., in a personal interview with the Secretary, had intimated his own intention of doing everything possible to secure vacancies for representatives to be selected by the Association of Poor-Law Unions upon the Council of the Royal British College of Nursing, which would be formed as soon as the amalgamation of the College of Nursing, Ltd., with the Royal British Nurses' Association should be accomplished; but that the Privy Council were still considering the application for the necessary Supplemental Charter.

This was adopted.

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