

SUNSHINE FOR SHELL SHOCK.

THE "COLOUR WARD" IN THE McCaul HOSPITAL FOR OFFICERS.

For three days during the past week, the "Colour Ward," designed by Mr. Howard Kemp Prosser, and carried out under his supervision, was on view at the McCaul Hospital for Officers at Welbeck Street, W.; and when we paid it a visit we were fortunate to find Mr. Kemp Prosser in the ward and willing in the most courteous manner to explain the scientific basis of his great Idea.

The idea is to convey all the tones of early Spring—and thus influence the mind of the patient—to catch the sunshine in the walls, which are painted sunshine-yellow—the ceiling firmament blue, and the wood-work Spring green. The furniture is painted primrose—the idea being that its tone shall melt into the walls—and with sunlight walls and blue ceiling the patient shall have a sense of space and not be conscious of the confinement between four walls. The floor is of a primrose green harmonizing with the walls, ceiling and furniture. Silver also plays its part in the realistic decoration—the fire stove, hearth and fender are of dull silver, which is washable; as are the diet trays on which the crockery—a most tender tone of primrose—is arranged.

All Autumn tints, denoting death and decay, are avoided.

The furnishing of the "Colour Ward" is charming—curtains, on separately swung rails, of primrose and mauve, screens of blue, couch mauve with reversible cushions—primrose for dull days and mauve for those too bright.

Lovely delphiniums of pale blue in delicate yellow vases, and just one little picture inset over the silver mantel completed the delightful effect.

We nurses know how sick people are influenced by their surroundings—we know how darkness, dullness, dirt, depresses their nervous systems—how inspiring is sunshine, light, cleanliness, beauty. How, sometimes, even a few flowers will cheer and invigorate a sick person in an extraordinary degree; and Mr. Kemp Prosser's wonderful Idea of catching Spring in a sick room and keeping it there all the time is based on a sound physiological instinct of rare quality, which let us hope the majority of healers will not be too obtuse to realise and appreciate.

When we are ill, please surround us with Spring sunshine and its tender green and silver gleams—a canopy of Heavenly blue—and a primrose path.

E. G. F.

From General Head-Quarters in France it was reported on Monday, that the enemy bombed one of our hospitals and killed three nurses and wounded a fourth severely. The hospital was far away from the battle front.

Aerial warfare covers a very wide "front." Let us hope, that at an early date it will include Berlin, Vienna, Constantinople and Sofia.

BRITISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL COMMITTEE AND THE NURSING PROFESSION.

We have received for publication the following correspondence between the Chairman of the British Women's Hospital Committee and the President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses:—

21, Old Bond Street, W. 1.
September 27th, 1917.

DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—I am empowered by my Committee to tell you that, after careful consideration and earnest thought, the Committee of the British Women's Hospital have decided to accept Sir Arthur Stanley's invitation to appeal for the Endowment and Benefit Funds of the College of Nursing.

Yours sincerely,
MAY WHITTY,
Chairman.

SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.
October 2nd, 1917.

DEAR MISS WHITTY,—I am obliged to you for your letter of September 27th, informing me that the Committee of the British Women's Hospital have decided to make a charitable appeal for the Nursing Profession, at the request of the Chairman of the College of Nursing, Ltd.

I have already carefully explained to you and other members of your Committee the grave reasons, which, in my judgment, exist against this decision. My deep respect for the professional work of ladies connected with the stage, and for the wonderful generosity with which they always assist charitable and philanthropic undertakings of all kinds in this country, emboldens me to express my regret at that decision for the following amongst other reasons:—

1. The College of Nursing, Ltd., is a limited liability Company, started some eighteen months ago by seven laymen, who have very little knowledge of either the educational or economic affairs of trained nurses.

2. The trained nurses of this country, numbering many thousands, in the various societies which represent their views, have not given these gentlemen any authority to act for them.

3. His Majesty's Privy Council were petitioned some eight months ago to amalgamate with the Royal British Nurses' Association, the College of Nursing, Ltd., under the title of the Royal British College of Nursing, providing for the retention, almost in its entirety, of the present constitution of the College of Nursing, and if I may quote your words, "after careful consideration and earnest

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