

Cross Hospital. Sister Dams has worked there for twelve years; Sister Bland, for eight; and Sister Hall, for six. Sister Hall is shortly leaving to be married.

#### WAR SERVICE BADGE FOR NURSES.

In the House of Commons on Friday, October 19th, Major Chapple asked the Under-Secretary of State for War whether in issuing badges of honour to those soldiers who entered a theatre of war in 1914 he would take into consideration the claims to a similar distinction of military nurses, whose heroism and devotion to duty were no less conspicuous.

Mr. Macpherson replied that all officers and others serving in theatres of war on the establishment who had fulfilled the prescribed conditions would be entitled to the badge. Regulations on the subject would be published shortly.

#### GRATITUDE TO THE ARMIES OF THE EMPIRE.

The Prime Minister, on Monday next, will move a resolution in the House of Commons placing on record its gratitude to the Armies of the Empire for the heroism displayed by them in the great victories which have been won for the cause of the Allies since the start of the great offensive in July 1916. The terms of the resolution are awaited with much interest, as it is expected that special mention will be made of the services of women.

#### A DEBT OF THE STATE.

On the invitation of the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, the British Women's Hospital Committee, of 21, Old Bond Street, W., are inviting the public to contribute to a Fund to be called, "The Nation's Fund for Nurses," which fund is to provide an endowment for the College of Nursing, Ltd., and a Benevolent Fund for individual nurses, apparently for "Nurses who have lost their health during the war."

In our opinion such nurses—to whose courage and devotion the Prime Minister bears testimony—should be assured of support by the nation, which owes them "a tremendous debt of gratitude," without being made the subject of a charitable appeal.

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses has already voiced the views of many nurses by expressing its "strong objection to any appeal being made in the name of Trained Nurses during the war, as it feels that every penny available should either be invested in the War Loan, in support of the Government in the prosecution of the war, or subscribed in aid of the sick and wounded sailors and soldiers shattered in health, physically and mentally, owing to their heroic defence of the cause of the Allies."

#### EDITH CAVELL CELEBRATION IN PARIS.

For the second time since the cruel assassination of the British pioneer nurse, Edith Cavell, her anniversary has been commemorated in Paris. Last year the hospital which bears her name was opened, and this year the 11th inst. was set aside for the unveiling of the plaster original of Sir George Frampton's magnificent bust, which he has presented to the hospital. Decorated with a profusion of lovely autumn flowers and foliage, the beautiful features of the British nurse, which Sir George Frampton has given to us at her best, greet the newcomer at the entrance of the hospital school. What a magnificent tribute!

The hospital, which consists of four pavilions—wooden huts with 25 beds, is a military hospital for the duration of the war, and the training given to the nurses is a military training on French lines. Mme. Girard-Mangin, the well-known doctor, who has been working at the French front since the beginning of the war, is the Directrice of the hospital. Professor Hartmann is the surgeon, and nurses come from all round to take a course of radiography under the direction of Mme. Curie, the great discoverer of radium. A small nurses' home is attached to the hospital to accommodate the staff of nurses who give the practical instruction which the Service de Santé consider necessary for service in the French military hospitals. There is also a quickly grown but picturesque garden, into which the patients can be wheeled to catch every ray of sun. Since the beginning of the war the marvellous healing effect of the sun has been tested by the greatest French doctors, and in many hospitals at set hours, dressings are taken off and the wounds left exposed to the sun. The value of "fresh air" has also been tested, and great attention is paid to the best methods of ventilation.

The hospital as it stands has been built by the generosity of M. Charles Stern, on a plot of land near the Porte de Versailles, belonging to the nursing school of the Rue Amyot. Let us hope that, after the war, it will be organised for the professional training of nurses.

Amongst the distinguished guests to visit the Edith Cavell Hospital were Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, accompanied by Miss Ellison, and Mrs. Gasset, from Chicago, who invited Mrs. Fenwick to visit her daughter's workshop, and was so proud to give her the romantic story of how an artist was turned into a surgical inventor by the stern necessity of war.

G. E.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)