

matters in hospital are complicated by wounded civilians, who may be women and children, being brought in as well as soldiers. The wounds will be of two kinds—injuries caused by the bombs themselves, and those caused by falling beams or walls. . . . Curiously enough, there is not often severe hæmorrhage from bomb wounds at the time, though there is frequently secondary hæmorrhage afterwards. A sterile towel is generally placed over the wound till it can be properly dressed. Injections of morphia, strychnine, camphor, may be ordered, patients must be treated for shock, hot water bottles will be needed, patients must be undressed and prepared for immediate operation, dirty wounds cleaned up, cut heads shaved, instruments boiled, and dressings got ready. Once the wounds are dressed and the patients operated on, they go to the wards and are treated as ordinary patients. Sisters should never forget to re-assure the other patients in the ward if shells or bombs are dropping near; they are often very much frightened, especially the helpless ones."

Concerning gas attacks, Miss Thurstan writes, "there are two ways of being gassed, either by the clouds of drift gas loosed by the enemy getting blown by the wind in your direction, or by shells containing poisonous gases exploding near you. There are different kinds of gas. . . . Some gases irritate especially the eyes, and some particularly attack the mucous membranes of mouth, throat, lungs and stomach."

Sisters working near the front are supplied with official pattern gas masks. Miss Thurstan reminds them that they should learn exactly how to put them on and should always have them in hand in case of need. If there are no masks handy, a bath towel soaked in a strong solution of common soda put over the face is a good makeshift, but, of course, it makes it impossible to see. The effects of drift gas can be felt eight miles or more from the front of a flat country when the wind is favourable. The symptoms and treatment of patients badly gassed are then described.

We might quote much more from this interesting book, but we prefer to advise our readers to read it themselves. We said in beginning this review that this text book of war nursing should be included in the kit of every nurse going on active service, but it should have a wider *clientele* than that. Every nurse who hopes to go on active service—and what nurse does not?—should study it in order to acquaint herself with the most modern methods, and to increase her efficiency for service, and every probationer in training will find that she has greater comprehension of her work, if she masters the contents of this up-to-date book. It is, moreover, so vividly written that one almost hears the guns and smells the powder.

OUR ADVERTISERS.

Do not omit to buy, as far as possible, everything you need from "Our Advertisers," and to recommend them to your friends.

THE R.B.N.A. AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

We have received for publication a copy of a letter sent to the Secretary of the College of Nursing, Ltd., by the R.B.N.A. :—

DEAR MADAM,—I thank you for your letter of 23rd inst, and am instructed by the Honorary Secretaries of this Corporation to say that we are glad to note that you admit that the first official advance in favour of amalgamation came from the College of Nursing, Ltd. The Council of the Corporation are unaware of any unofficial pourparlers which may have taken place.

While we regret the necessity for contradicting your statement, we think that, in view of your admission and the inquiries received from our members, we were justified in regarding it as "misleading and inaccurate."

I am, Madam,

Yours truly,

ISABEL MACDONALD, *Secretary.*

Royal British Nurses' Association,
10, Orchard Street, Portman Square, W. 1.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The programme of the Conference of the National Union of Trained Nurses is now complete, and will be found on page ii of the cover of this issue. It is both comprehensive and attractive.

A useful bit of work which the Union is undertaking is the establishment of a War Savings Association, at the wish of the National War Savings Committee, in order to help to raise the funds that will make it possible for us to bring the war to a victorious close. Details may be obtained from the Secretary, War Savings Association, 46, Marsham Street, S.W.

FRANCE'S DAY.

The splendid sum of £166,500 has been handed to the French Ambassador as the result of the collection made on France's Day, for the British Empire Fund for the French wounded, by the Lord Mayor, who visited the French Embassy in state for this purpose. At the same time Lady Gertrude Cochrane presented a cheque for £10,000 from the Scottish Red Cross. The Vicomtesse de la Panouse, President of the Comité de Londres, Croix Rouge Française, and a number of notable persons, were present.

COMING EVENTS.

November 9th.—Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Visit to Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, 54A, Wigmore Street, W. 2.30 p.m. Quarterly Meeting, 431, Oxford Street, W. 4 p.m.

November 17th.—Nurses' Missionary League. Sale of Work, Sloane Gardens House, 52, Lower Sloane Street, London, S.W. 1. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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