

and several women students were present. It was a most attractive clinic, because the doctor was so obviously interested in his little patients, and also on account of his very instructive comments on the cases. It was a mistake, he said, to think that the stomach of a newly born infant was only capable of holding an ounce of fluid; he had caused test feeds to be given to infants from ten days to a fortnight old, and he had found that six ounces of milk had been taken in many cases. He did not mean to say that the milk was all contained in the stomach, but what happened was that it flowed through into the intestine as fast as it was taken. It was better to watch a baby and see what it did than to have pre-conceived ideas of what it ought to do. Babies knew their job a jolly sight better than we could tell them. He thought too much stress was laid on babies taking their food too fast. One could not expect them to have good table manners, and he did not attach any importance to excess of energy in this direction.

His remarks, he observed, were from the point of view of breast feeding, which required so much study that he was not ashamed to say it left no time for that of artificial feeding.

The mother of an infant of six months or so with a discharging ear was advised to take it to the hospital for the removal of its tonsils. Mr. Waller said that the inflammation would be a source of continual danger to the child, and that, sad as it was to have to recommend this course in so young an infant, it would have to be carried out sooner or later. The next infant won his doctor's approval as "a well-shaped chap," and he stood naked on his mother's lap while his well-developed muscles were pointed out to the clinic. Free movement of the infants' limbs was advocated, and the mothers advised in some cases to stand them upon their feet, and let them move their legs in order to improve their digestion. We were informed that both mothers and babies enjoy the clinic, and we are not surprised.

The raids have had a bad effect on the attendances, for the mothers are in many cases too weary after their nerve-racking nightly experiences to do anything but rest in the afternoon.

St. Katharine's is but another example of the inestimable benefit that the Infant Welfare centres are to the poor mothers of London.

H. H.

We regret that no prize competition papers reached us this week in time for publication. No doubt everyone is too busy to write papers just now.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

The following members of the Nursing Profession and others had the honour of being received by the King at Buckingham Palace on December 19th, when His Majesty decorated them with the Royal Red Cross:—

THE ROYAL RED CROSS. (SECOND CLASS.)

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve: Matron Edith Gibson.

Australian Army Nursing Service: Sister Ida O'Dwyer, Staff Nurse Mary Craven.

Civil Nursing Service: Matrons Kathleen Haire, Evaline Hall, Winifred Heywood and Alice Higgs; Assistant Matron May Horn; Sisters Gertrude Grimmer and Daisy Humphries; Nurses Sarah Hobbs and Elsie Spurgin.

British Red Cross Society: Matrons Jessie Henry and Elizabeth Cockburn-Hughes; Sister Alice Gamblin.

Voluntary Aid Detachment: Matrons Clara Frost, Florence Geldart, Clara Gibson, Mary Gillmor, Eliza Gough, Florence Wood-Hanbury, Kate Heaton, Frances Higgins, Alice Howard, Clara Hulley, Edith Munn, Marian Murray and the Hon. Mrs. Gambier-Parry; Sisters Jessie Eve, Florence Gleave, Gertrude Godber, Kate Good, Beatrice Harrison, Mary Hawkes and Charlotte Henderson; Nurses Helen Gibbs, Muriel Graham, Annie Hall and Edith Hoar; Miss Frances Garforth, Miss Grace Gam, Mrs. Goff, Miss Ellen Greenwood, Miss Isabella Harrison, Lady Lettice Harrison, Miss Edith Hall, Miss Mabel Haslam, Miss Daisy Hirst, Miss Edith Hodgson, Lady Isobel Douglas-Home and Miss Alice Rideal.

Subsequent to the Investiture, Queen Alexandra received the members of the Military Nursing Service, who have been awarded the Royal Red Cross, at Marlborough House.

A beautiful Crucifix erected in the grounds of St. John's Church, Waterloo Road, S.E., by the nursing Staff of King George's Hospital, to commemorate the men who have made the supreme sacrifice, and passed away in that hospital, was unveiled by Queen Alexandra on December 20th.

The memorial is a very beautiful one. The Cross and Figure (which is almost life size) are cast in bronze, and mounted on a stone pedestal, bearing the following inscriptions:—

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

"Eternal Rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."

"Erected by the Nursing Staff in honour of the patients who died in King George's Hospital H.M. Stationery Offices, Stamford Street, used as a military hospital during the war."

"In memory of those who have given their lives for their country."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)