

which was Miss Elliot's Training School, and bears the following inscription:—"Presented by Miss Edith Elliot, trained at Hammersmith Infirmary, 1906-1909. A War Gift from the British Solomon Islands, 1917."

By the kindness of the Editor of *Nursing Notes* we are able to reproduce the charming picture of "Peter," a patient at Tulagi Government Hospital.

A "Roll of Merit" has now been instituted and hung in the C.N.A. Office, on which are inscribed the names of nurses who have retired after long and faithful service with the Association. At present seventeen names are inscribed, amongst which we notice that of Miss Katherine E. Stollard, who was a member of the Registered Nurses' Society previous to joining the Association in 1894, and Miss Jessie Oram, a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

*Punch*, as often before, hits off the situation in a clever cartoon this week, entitled "The Judgment of Paris: Latest Inversion." A woman holds in her hand the apple marked "Vote"; three eager men, representing Conservatism, Liberalism, and Labour, press round her, insinuatingly and beseechingly, saying: "Don't forget, dear lady, when the time comes, that it was *I* who gave you the apple." The importance of being a woman—and a voter—is evident. She counts!—*The Vote*.

### THE NURSES' PETITION TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

Forms for signature can be obtained from the Petition Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1. Have you claimed representation on the Provisional Council to make Rules under a Nurses' Registration Act? If not, help to maintain the independence of the Nursing Profession by doing so as soon as possible.

The Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P., has been elected treasurer of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, so, unfortunately, he can no longer claim to be independent so far as the struggle between practising nurses and the reactionary and powerful Nursing Schools are concerned. Mr. Stanley now controls, as an employer, one of the largest nursing staffs in the United Kingdom, whose professional future largely depends upon his will.

It may not be generally known that the members of the Units organized by the American Red Cross when they muster-in for active service, take the oath of allegiance to the United States Army and become an integral part of its medical organization. At present the rank of officer has not been granted to the nurses, as is the case in the Canadian Army Nursing Service, but no doubt sooner or later it will be conferred.

### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, sends us one of her characteristic and refreshing letters, but she writes she has been "waiting for the war to finish, somehow while it drags on it seems to act as a blight on all usual processes. . . . One doesn't always know whether one's letters arrive. Denmark, for instance, doesn't seem to get any, or send any that come. Now we are in the war, too, things will be worse than ever, and one can make no plans. Our National Association is going to hold biennial instead of annual meetings, beginning May or June, 1918, so 1920 will be the first opportunity for an International. That seems pretty far away—it seems all that can be done in the present outlook." . . .

Miss Dock has carefully followed our suffrage debates (she has little faith in good legislation for women, including State Registration, until women have the vote); she rejoices at our triumph, but writes: "I will wait and see it actually come to pass. If they can do you out of it even yet, they will."

"But Canada wonderful! And we are making progress here, too, in a queer way. A number of State Legislatures are giving women the vote for U.S. President, which they are able to do without a referendum. This, of course, makes women an important factor in national campaigns for even when Wilson was elected it was possible for the women enfranchised at that time to have turned the scale. The National Women's Party campaigned against him on his Party's record of refusing to stand for a federal amendment, and will do so even more strongly another time unless they (the party in power) gives its support. They shuffle out of it now on the excuse of States rights. Well, we can't get it too soon for a heap of women need to learn a lot, and they can only get their lessons by going to school!"

Well, dearest dears, my best hopes and wishes to you all. My thoughts are ever with you even if I don't write often."

How far away the enfranchisement of women appeared, when last Miss Dock was with us, taking an active part in our "holy war," and now we believe it is right here. "You will get a far more liberal Registration Act once you have the vote," she has told us often, and that is one reason why we need suffrage first.

It is a sure fact that all the most "blood-thirsty" anti-registrationists are bitter opponents of women's suffrage. This antagonism springs from the ignoble instinct of sex intolerance and fear of competition. Such men are for ever attempting to dominate the economic condition of women, and should be vigorously excluded from power in their organisations.

British nurses are quite as capable of managing their own professional affairs as the Americans; so far, however, they have never been permitted a free hand.

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