

PRINCESS VICTORIA'S REST CLUBS FOR NURSES IN FRANCE.

In days to come, when the Great War is a memory of the past, many nurses on active service in France will recall with gratitude that life was made easier and pleasanter for them owing to the sympathy and understanding of Princess Victoria. With the assistance of some of her friends Her Royal Highness has established a series of Nurses' Rest Clubs in France at Wimereux, Etaples, Rouen, Camiers, Abbeville, St. Omer, Le Treport, Calais, Boulogne and Paris, which are open to all British, Overseas and American Nurses, and V.A.D.s in the zone of the Armies, as well as the W.A.A.C. Administrators and Red Cross Motor Ambulance Drivers. Nurses from Ambulance Trains and Hospital Barges are admitted as Hon. Members.

The institution of these Clubs has been more than justified. When every British Hospital was packed to overflowing many of the Nurses (who were working at very high pressure) were "billeted" in the town, very often two or three in a room, and the need of some quiet place where they could rest a little and spend some of their few hours "off duty" was very greatly felt. The funds for the establishment and maintenance of the

Clubs are all subscribed privately, so that strict control has to be exercised over the expenditure; nevertheless, under the management of the Committee at home and with Lady Algernon Gordon Lennox as director in France, they are charming and restful places, and only those nurses who may work from ten to twenty hours for weeks on end, live under fire, sleep under canvas with their gas masks and tin hats beside them, realise the mental and physical rest and uplift which a few days in such an environment means.

One thing which is essential in such a club is a good supply of books and papers, but their purchase is a heavy drain on a slender exchequer. Especially are copies of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

welcome, bringing as it does the latest professional information and news about colleagues in other parts of the world. There must be many nurses—private nurses more especially who do not keep their copies to bind when they have read them—who would willingly send these to the Clubs in France if they were aware of the need, and we shall be glad to hear from any nurse who will undertake to post her copy each week to a Princess Victoria's Rest Club for Nurses, and the place to which she proposes to send it amongst those enumerated above.

The Clubs are a recognised military unit under the administration of the Director of Medical Services, and the subscription a nominal one.

Tea and other light meals and sometimes breakfast are provided at most reasonable prices.

We are indebted to the courtesy of the Editor of the *Queen* for permission to reproduce the charming portrait of Her Royal Highness the Princess Victoria by Miss Alice Hughes, which appeared in that paper.



Alice Hughes.

H.R.H. PRINCESS VICTORIA.

RESIGNATION.

The resignation of Miss Gertrude Knight, R. R. C., Matron of the General Hospital, Nottingham, will be received with great regret by the many pupils who have been trained in this important nursing school under her

superintendence. Miss Knight was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and after a varied experience was appointed Matron of the Adelaide Hospital, Dublin. Since 1892, Miss Knight has been Matron of the General Hospital Nottingham, and has seen very many improvements in the structure of the hospital, and initiated reforms in the curriculum of the nursing school. We hope that after her long and honourable nursing career she may enjoy her leisure.

The appointment thus vacated is attached to one of the most important training schools in the provinces, and will, no doubt, attract many applicants. Particulars of the vacancy will be found in our advertisement columns.

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