

little time ago there was a special Red Cross meeting at Cambridge to discuss what was called "a very regrettable situation," when great indignation was expressed because the cases sent to the Auxiliary hospitals were not sufficiently "acute" and that many beds were empty. A Mr. M. V. J. Webber thought the grounds for protest came under four heads:—(1) That the staffs of all their V.A.D. Hospitals were quite competent to deal with the most serious cases that could be sent to them, either on the medical or surgical side, yet they had patients sent to them who required very little or no treatment; (2) that the type of case they were receiving was very disheartening to the V.A.D. nurses, who required something better to do than to wait on men, wash up tea-cups, lay tablecloths, and make beds, and if their nurses were not practised in their higher work they would get rusty as well as disheartened; (3) with the type of case that was now sent to them it was rather hard to maintain discipline, because when a man was practically cured he was more difficult to control.

"Ultimately a resolution was sent to Headquarters embodying these pretensions. It is this sort of thing which we trained nurses are up against all the time. It is all these fussy and ignorant organisers who, knowing nothing of nursing, are lowering our standards everywhere, and those who make a stand against it are marked women. The Matrons know it. Promotion and tin-pot honours are not for those who dare to protest."



THE LATE MISS EVELYN MAUD DAWSON.

Among those who lost their lives on board the hospital ship, *Salta*, which was mined in the English Channel on April 10th, was Miss Evelyn Maud Dawson, who worked for eight years in St. Catherine's Hospital, Cawnpore. On the outbreak of war, being at home on leave, she was called up at once as a member of the Imperial Nursing Service Reserve, and for two years and eight months she nursed the sick and wounded, first at Aldershot and later on board hospital ships, mostly in the Mediterranean. At the time of her death, she was matron on board the *Salta*. Her name was retained on the list of missionaries of the S.P.G., and it was her intention to return to

Cawnpore after the war. She loved her profession, and when in India endeared herself both to the nurses and patients in the hospital. She died at her post as she would have wished. We are indebted to the Editor of *The Mission Field* for our illustration.

Writing from Salonika in the summary of the work of the Joint War Committee, Lieut.-Col. Fitzpatrick says:—

"The Sisters' tea and reading rooms have turned out to be an extraordinarily successful venture, a result already foreshadowed by the returns for September. Social facilities of the 'tea and light refreshments' order are more lacking in Salonika, probably, than in any other large city in the world, and the sisters are profusely grateful for the additional Red Cross boon. The venture has more than paid for itself, and it is probable that we shall be compelled to open another tea room at the opposite end of the city."

Trained nurses who worked with the late Dr. Elsie Inglis, and who loved and revered this real heroine, will be glad to know that her life is to be written by Lady Frances Balfour, who will be grateful for any incidents of interest relating to her school life, college days, and medical career, and later to her political and Suffrage work. Letters regarding the above are to be sent to Mrs. Simson, 10, Cluny Avenue, Edinburgh.

An Army Sister writes:—"Thank you for ranging yourself on the side of venereal disinfection. I have been amazed, during war nursing, to learn that an Army Order forbids the use of prevention. That seems almost criminal stupidity to me. If I were an Army doctor I should defy such an Order, and save thousands of ignorant lads from shame and misery. The horrors of a venereal ward I once visited in a French military hospital made me realise how all-important it is to abolish these diseases. Please continue to urge trained nurses to be vigilant in this campaign against prejudice. So many look to you for guidance."

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