

them throwing themselves out of the window in their last struggles for breath.

"A great part of my work has consisted in persuading grief and horror-stricken relations to await the end in another room, to save them the pain of these tragic scenes, and in breaking the news to others that may have arrived too late to see their dear ones alive."

Another Sister supplements this terrible report. She says: "I am still working among the gassed cases. Very appalling it is to see the sufferings of the victims. The extent of the burns is hardly explicable—internally and externally in some cases—but, as ever, the brave, courageous poilu with never a murmur, is always cheerful and grateful when conscious."

And again:—"During my experience of war nursing (four years), this of the caring for the gassed cases is one, if not the most, fatiguing; there is a continued indescribable feeling of tiredness, lassitude, and depression, and it is very sad—very sad—so many dying, and the death so agonising. And what to say to the poor heart-broken women, mourning their sons and husbands." What, indeed!

How one's heart burns to read of such torture! For those who have caused it there must be just and adequate punishment, or there can be no real victory in this war, or future hope for humanity. We read with impatience the platitudes of politicians of alien descent in the Councils of the Nation, and turn with relief and hope to the robust mentality and plain speech of the men America has elected to power.

When one reads of the death of a nurse owing to a disturbance in a military hospital by black troops, one wonders who is responsible for the discipline of the institution, for evidently it requires twitching up.

An inquest was held last week on the body of Nurse McShane, aged 40.

Mr. William Henry Taylor, officer in charge of Belmont Road Military Auxiliary Hospital, Liverpool, said it contained black and white patients, the former being British West Indians. The

coloured men had been over-staying the time allowed them out of hospital. In consequence the military police guard was redoubled and the names and numbers of late-comers were taken. Wednesday, last week, a West Indian sergeant, named Demetrius, attempted to leave the hospital. He was stopped, but immediately drew a razor and slashed wildly with it. He was disarmed and



LITTLE IRENE ELLIOTT MOORE UNVEILING THE "VICTORY" SYREN AT WASHINGTON, U.S.A.

placed in a cell. Ten late-comers, all West Indians then appeared. Two of the number refused to go to their wards, and, being joined by four or five other coloured men, also late-comers, became very abusive. An attempt was made to take them to the cells, and fifty other West Indians joined in the affair, taking possession of the police lodge. Some 400 wounded British soldiers, who

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)