

NURSING AND THE WAR.

Miss Constance E. Todd, who has received the much-prized Military Medal, is Matron of the Brigade Hospital maintained by the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in this country, which was first established at Etaples, and suffered so severely in the deliberate bombardment of that colony of hospitals by the Huns. Not only were buildings and equipment provided so generously through the self-denial of many members of the Order, destroyed, but, more precious still, wounded men as they lay in their beds were done to death, with the heroic Sisters who remained at their side. As the bombs were falling and shells bursting, Miss Todd went from ward to ward, cheering the patients and encouraging the nursing staff. Later the hospital was rebuilt at a greater distance from the Front. Miss Todd was trained at Guy's Hospital, and when selected as Matron of the Brigade Hospital, was Matron at St. James' Infirmary, Wandsworth.

It was a great pleasure to see Miss Helen Scott Hay, R.N., and Miss Robinson, R.N., lately Chief Nurse of the American Ambulance in Paris, when they spent a day in London last week on their way to the Balkans, where they will be engaged in all phases of relief work in connection with the Balkan Commission of the American Red Cross at Salonika. The party, which is going out under the leadership of Colonel Anderson, includes six women — three trained nurses one dietitian, one social worker, and one interpreter. Later it is hoped that Miss Rachel Torrance, at present Chief Nurse of the American Red Cross in Great Britain, will join the party. ■

Miss Hay is eminently qualified for this work. It will be remembered that in September, 1914, she took a party of American Red Cross Nurses to Russia, and afterwards worked in the Balkans, principally in Bulgaria, helping the late Queen Eleanore. She has recently been associated with Miss Anna W. Goodrich in the organisation of the Army School of Nursing, and she relates with

some pride that when the mental capacity of the accepted candidates was scientifically tested the large proportion were of a very high average.

Miss Hay is looking forward with great pleasure to her new sphere of work.

The special correspondent of *The Matin* at Brussels has succeeded (says the *Central News*), after overcoming countless difficulties, in discovering the grave of Edith Cavell. It is situated in a field at Brussels which had been a firing range, but which the Germans had transformed into a

great cabbage patch. The grave bears the number 6 and lies close to that of Philippe Bacq, who was shot on the same day. For three months the German commander refused to permit any name to be inscribed on the cross which indicates the sepulchre of the British nurse. Burgomaster Max has been to the spot to pay homage to the dead martyr, and a monument will commemorate her glory at the very spot where, with her companions, she faced the firing party.

Those who have worked for, and are interested in Russia, should read General Gourko's great book, "Memories and Impressions of War, 1914-1917." It is a perfectly fascinating record of a terrible tragedy; but do not let us condemn Russia until we have realized her heroic efforts before the reign of Bolshevism—by which heroism France was saved if Russia was cast into the abyss.

Writing from Lyons, where she was helping the American Red Cross, Miss Grace Ellison says: "The Nurses of the S.T. Zone here, of which Lyons is the chief city, send you their congratulations on the 25th anniversary of your control of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and wish you every success in your campaign. It is a very great surprise to them all here that the British Nurses are not registered, and they wonder if it is not a little the nurses' fault that they have not got registration, as in America it is only too evident to laywomen that it is for their own protection. Every nurse in the A.R.C. is a



MISS CONSTANCE E. TODD, M.M., R.R.C.

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