

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

At the Investiture held by the King on Thursday, December 19th, His Majesty decorated the following ladies with the Royal Red Cross :—

FIRST CLASS.

Sister Ethel Harwood, Q.A.I.M.N.S.R.; and Sister Mary Thomson, Q.A.I.M.N.S.R.

SECOND CLASS.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Sisters Fanny Boulton, Mabel Campbell, Frances Hobbs, Sidney Rea, Janet Rodger, Priscilla Walker, and Staff Nurse Kate Rossi. *Territorial Force Nursing Service.*—Sister Esther Ashby. *Civil Nursing Service.*—Sister Mary Lintall. *Voluntary Aid Detachment.*—Miss Victoria Dunn and Miss Helena Nisbett.

The King held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace on December 21st, when he decorated the following ladies with the Royal Red Cross and one with the Military Medal :—

FIRST CLASS.

Matron Katherine Hagar, American Nursing Service (Harvard Unit).

SECOND CLASS.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.—Matron Florence Tosh and Assistant Matron Rose Rooke.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Sister Isabel Anderson, Sister Jeanie Cameron, and Sister Mary Dunbar.

Territorial Force Nursing Service.—Sister Alice Lowe and Sister Maud Taylor.

Civil Nursing Service.—Matron Emily Porter.

Voluntary Aid Detachment.—Miss Ruth Lindsay, Miss Annie Philip, and The Lady Tollemache.

American Nursing Service.—Sister Helen Hinckley.

THE MILITARY MEDAL.

Sister Linda Bowles, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.

Queen Alexandra received at Marlborough House the members of the Military Nursing Services who have been awarded the Royal Red Cross and the Military Medal, subsequent to the Investiture at Buckingham Palace.

Among the honours and awards for War Services announced in a Special Supplement to the *London Gazette* the following ladies are awarded the Royal Red Cross :—

FIRST CLASS.

Miss J. Durie, Matron, S.A. Med. Corps; Miss R. N. Fogarty, Matron, S.A. Med. Corps.

SECOND CLASS.

Miss E. Covey, Matron, S.A. Med. Corps; Miss A. O'Brien, Sister, S.A. Med. Corps.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

NURSES' UNIFORM GRANTS.

An Army Council instruction which has just been issued gives the following new rates of uniform allowance :—

Q.A.I.M.N.S., Q.A.I.M.N.S.(R.) and T.F.N.S.—£10 on enrolment, to cover the cost of a winter outfit; further instructions will be issued in due course as to the issue of any grant that may be approved for those who are required to provide themselves with a summer outfit *V.A.D. (Nursing Members), and Special Military Probationers.*—£4 each six months, payable in advance; in the event of their ceasing to serve within three months of becoming eligible for such a grant (otherwise than through illness or unavoidable accident) a refund of £2 will be required. *V.A.D. (Nursing Members) and Special Military Probationers* appointed prior to this date will receive the new rate of grant sanctioned above when the next six-monthly payment falls due. To prevent misunderstanding it is notified that the above increases are temporary, and will only continue while the present exceptional conditions subsist.

SISTERLY RECIPROCITY.

The Committee of the Scottish Nurses' Club, 105, Bath Street, Glasgow, has extended an invitation to members of the National Union of Trained Nurses, to make full use of the Club when in Glasgow. This courtesy has been acknowledged with much gratitude by the Executive Committee of the N.U.T.N.

Let us hope that before long English nurses in London will be in a position to offer reciprocity to their Scottish and Irish sisters in the use of a Club centre. Little birds are busy twittering!

TIME!

Bermondsey Board of Guardians have been informed by Dr. Bell, medical superintendent at their infirmary, that the probationer nurses, with few exceptions, refused to go on duty unless the whole day weekly leave was immediately restored. This had been stopped temporarily, and a half day substituted on account of the sick staff and the number of unfilled vacancies. On the promise that the whole day would be resumed they returned to duty. Dr. Bell added that the staff were in a state of unrest owing to the fact that they had not been granted any war bonus, whilst other boards had granted a bonus. The guardians decided to consider the grievances.

We do not approve of strikes where the sick are concerned. But we hope that Boards of Guardians will realise that drastic reorganisation in their Nursing Departments are necessary. The twelve-hour day or night must go. The strain on the nerves is too great.

COMING EVENTS.

January 1st, 1919.—New Year's Day.

ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

January 4th.—Charter Tea at 10, Orchard Street, W. 3.30 to 6 p.m.

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