

important, for well-made apparatus tends to careful work.

Then there is the department of chemical pathology, where she learns not only how to make up solutions, but also the elements of chemistry, beginning with simple urine-testing, and going on to the chemical part of the analysis of drinking-water and foods. Then she learns how to cut and stain sections of tumours and of organs removed post-mortem, and also the details of bacteriology, such as the sowing of culture media with discharges from wounds, &c., and observing what comes up. Incidentally, this is a type of gardening quite as fascinating as the tending of the fashionable allotment. And so she goes on in a daily task that is never dull because it is always lit up by flashes of light from the pathological elysium where the answers to the eternal problems are kept.

All this makes for an atmosphere of comradeship. I never knew anyone give themselves airs in a laboratory for very long. In fact, swagger is impossible, if only because in research everyone is always making mistakes, or perhaps I should say following temporarily the wrong byroad.

The only essential preliminary qualifications are keenness—and this is the most important of all—and a certain degree of natural dexterity. For the hopelessly awkward and heavy fingered the laboratory has no place.

Then the candidate must not be absolutely hopeless at "Figures." Later on she will have to work out chemical reactions and statistics, and if this has to be done by counting her fingers she will be left behind in the race. But the majority of girls nowadays have these qualifications—and especially for those who prefer mental to physical work, a laboratory career offers many and interesting possibilities.

Messrs. Debenham & Freebody have given up two of their large workrooms in Welbeck Street to the West End Hospital. They will be known as the Debenham wards.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

We are indebted to the courtesy of the editor of the *Scots Pictorial* for our portrait of Miss Mary Courtney, Matron of Montgreenan Auxiliary Hospital, Kilwinning, who was recently decorated with the Royal Red Cross.

At an Investiture held in the Quadrangle of Buckingham Palace on July 31st, the King conferred the following decorations:—

ROYAL RED CROSS.

FIRST CLASS.

Territorial Force Nursing Service.—Assistant Matron Ada TAYLOR.

Civil Nursing Service.—Assistant Matron Isabel KEMP, Sister Elizabeth MACAULAY.

Canadian Army Nursing Service.—Matron Myra GOOD-EVE.

SECOND CLASS.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Sister Georgina HESTER, Sister Florence HUGHES, Sister Clara ROBINSON, Sister Amy McDOWELL, Staff Nurse Mercy HUFFER, Staff Nurse Euphemia LORRAINE, and Miss Margaret PIERSON.

Territorial Force Nursing Service.—Sister Charlotte FITZMAYER.

Civil Nursing Service.—Matron Ethel CAREW-HODGE, Matron Marianne IFFLAND, Matron Phillimore IND, Matron Kathleen IRWIN, Matron Mabel JOHNSON, Matron Amy KAYE, Matron Ellen KIDSON, Matron Blanche KNAPTON, Matron Edith WAKE, Matron Marie WHEELER, Assistant Matron Isabel HEBBERDEN, Sister Ellen HOWARD, Sister Gertie INMAN, Sister Minnie JONES, and Mrs. Marian McGLASHAN.

British Red Cross Society.—Matron Mabel HUNT, Sister Jessie GUNN, Sister Kate

HATTON, and Sister Kathleen NIXON.

Voluntary Aid Detachment.—Miss Kate BISHOP, Mrs. Sibyl COCKBURN, Miss Lily HAGGAR, Mrs. Evelyn HEYDE, Miss Catherine HICKLING, Miss Mabel HODGES, Miss Amy HUSON, Miss Kate JACKSON, Mrs. Agnes JAMES, Mrs. Eva JONES, and Miss Gertrude MIRRINGTON.

Canadian Army Nursing Service.—Sister Alba ANDREW, Sister Irene BRADY, and Sister Sophie HOERNER.

THE MILITARY MEDAL.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Sister Mary BROWN.

At the opening of Australia House by the King on Saturday last, Head Sister Ida O'Dwyer, Australian Army Nursing Service, R.R.C., was presented to the King and Queen.



MISS MARY COURTNEY, R.R.C.,
Matron, Montgreenan Auxiliary Hospital, Kilwinning.

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