

thanks to Miss M. P. Smith, Miss Rough's principal assistant, who retired at the same time.

Miss Rough's successor is Miss Taylor, who at one time held the position of ward sister at the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, and recently that of Matron of Merryflats War Hospital. The four nurses, members of the Executive Committee, who retired at the close of the year, were Nurses Baillie, Borland, Elizabeth Brown, and Ruas. They are succeeded by

which requires skill and concentrated attention. "At a time like the present," she writes, "when there is so much work to be done, one is surprised that a Britisher could be content to give so grudgingly in his country's service."

We have much sympathy with the writer, but such drudgery does not invariably improve the quality of the service. Moreover, nurses have been given too little time in the past to think and read in hospital work, and we are now realising how such a lack of mental

growth has injured their power of judgment. The manner in which they have obeyed orders to join the College of Nursing, Ltd., and without consideration and discrimination, without reading the Constitution or knowing what the contract they sign includes, are signing away not only their own liberty, but doing all in their power to enslave their more public-spirited colleagues, proves the urgent necessity for more physical rest, and more outside interests in the lives of nurses. Three times recently, in speaking to women who are interesting themselves to help to obtain just legislation for nurses, they have expressed the opinion that "nurses are helpless people—so like sheep." That is not flattering, but 84 hours' work a week is



AN AMERICAN SOLDIER AND HIS FIANCEE WEARING "FLU" MASKS, PICCADILLY CIRCUS.

Nurses Isabella Craig, J. Smith Craig, Louisa Frew, and Haig Lindsay.

A Special Appeal for a Benevolent Fund resulted in a sum of nearly £3,000 being received up to the time of publishing the Report.

A "Night Nurse" writes to the *Scotsman* to point out, in connection with the demand of the various Trades Unions for a 40-hour week, that the nursing profession cheerfully works 84 hours a week on night duty, arduous work

often the cause of their apathy.

We remember a Probationer at Bart.'s, who later rose high in her profession, remarking to us: "Self-sacrifice is a luxury one's fellow-humans invariably abuse. I would be much more unselfish if it did not injure others." We fear there is a certain amount of truth in that opinion. Every nurse knows the type of patient who absorbs the last iota of vitality she possesses.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)