

NURSING AND THE WAR.

British Nursing Sisters are with the Army of Occupation in Germany, and the group depicted are of the staff of No. 36 Casualty Clearing Station, standing on the banks of the Rhine at Cologne. In the background is the celebrated Hohenzollern Bridge, members of the International Council of Nurses knew so well in 1912.

A.G. 10, as the Adjutant-General's Department at the War Office is technically known, has not yet made up its mind whether nurses and V.A.D.s

Secretary to the Admiralty said that a scheme for improvement of salary of the Nursing Sisters of Queen Alexandra's Naval Nursing Service is being considered by the Admiralty. It is high time, as *Truth* states. "The omission of all reference to Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service in the recent announcements of bonuses, prize bounties, and war gratuities for everybody else in the Navy is so astonishing that one would think it can only be due to accidental oversight, though the accident would still be inexcusable. Nothing whatever has been done for the nurses since the beginning of the war.



BRITISH SISTERS ON THE RHINE.

who served in Malta and Gibraltar during the war are to be awarded the 1915 Star.

Technically, it is stated, they have no claim thereto, as Malta and Gibraltar have always ranked as home stations. But it is pointed out on behalf of the nurses that women who braved the insanitary conditions of Malta—many contracted severe illness there—and went back and forth in hospital ships, risking submarines on every trip, are worthy of the honour. Hundreds of applications for the medal have been received, and the nurses are very anxious to share in this honour.

In reply to Major Wheeler, the Parliamentary

Yet if their services ever came to be recorded they will make a most stirring story. Many of them have had long spells of service in hospital ships. They have shared with our sailors all the horrors and perils of 'unrestricted' kultur on the high seas. They have ministered unceasingly to the sick and wounded in crowded hospitals on shore. And what have they got for it all? They began at £40 a year when a sovereign was still worth 20s. The figure remains £40, with the sovereign down to 10s. They can rise to £60 in course of time, but no higher. And if they continue to serve till the age of fifty they may qualify for a pension of 70 per cent. of their exiguous pay."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)