

The Royal Red Cross, Second Class, was awarded to several hundred trained nurses and V.A.D. nurses.

On April 10th His Majesty held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace, and decorated the following with the Royal Red Cross:—

#### The Royal Red Cross.

(FIRST CLASS.)

Sister Catherine Forrest, late Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, Matron Selina Bland, Civil Nursing Service, Sister Mildred Forbes, Canadian Army Nursing Service, and Matron Beryl Campbell, Australian Army Nursing Service.

#### The Royal Red Cross.

(SECOND CLASS.)

*Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.*—Assistant Matron Mary Bickerdyke, and Sister Mary Stewart-Richardson.

*Civil Hospital Reserve.*—Sister Elsie Cassidy.

*Voluntary Aid Detachment.*—Miss Hilda Gerard, Mrs. Mabel Pickering, Miss Mary Prowse, and Miss Jane Turnbull.

*Canadian Army Nursing Service.*—Sister Nellie Enright.

*Australian Army Nursing Service.*—Sister Grace Burns, Sister Beatrice Gibbon, Sister Jessie McDonald, and Sister Florence Young.

#### The Albert Medal.

Sister Gertrude Carlin, Territorial Force Nursing Service, also received the Royal Red Cross (Second Class).

Staff Nurse Harriet Fraser, Territorial Force Nursing Service, and Sister Gladys White, British Red Cross Society, also received the Royal Red Cross (Second Class).

Early in the morning of the 1st October, 1918, a serious fire occurred in No. 36 Casualty Clearing Station at Rousbrugge, in Belgium. At the time some of the patients were undergoing serious operations in the abdominal and general operating theatres, the walls of which were composed of wood. The first intimation of danger in the theatres was the extinction of the electric light accompanied by volumes of smoke, and almost immediately the wooden walls burst into flames. The two sisters and the staff nurse assisted in carrying the unconscious patients to safety, and returned to the burning wards to assist in carrying out other patients. During this time ether bottles and nitrous oxide cylinders were continually exploding, filling the air with fumes and flying fragments of steel.

#### The Military Medal.

Sister Jane Trotter, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve, and Miss Lillian Forse, Voluntary Aid Detachment.

The King bestowed on the following ladies the R.R.C. and Military Medal at Buckingham Palace, on Saturday, April 12th:—

#### The Royal Red Cross and Bar.

Matron Maude Blakely, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.

#### The Royal Red Cross.

FIRST CLASS.

Sister Cecily Thompson, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and Sister Margaret Alexander, Civil Hospital Reserve.

#### The Royal Red Cross.

SECOND CLASS.

*Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.*—Sister Christina Brace, Sister Mary Cain, Sister Marion Dew, Sister Maura McBrean, Sister Charlotte Morris, Sister Ethel Spicer, Staff Nurse Wilhelmina Lee, and Staff Nurse Rosa Rothwell.

*Territorial Force Nursing Service.*—Sister Janet Linton, and Staff Nurse Nina White.

*Civil Nursing Service.*—Matron Letitia Green, and Sister Martha Young.

#### The Military Medal.

Miss Molly Bianconi, First Aid Nursing Yeomanry, and Sister Eleanor Thompson, Canadian Army Nursing Service.

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

### LIST OF MENTIONS.

#### MILITARY OPERATIONS AT ADEN.

The names of a number of officers, ladies warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men have been brought to notice by the War Office, under date April 7th, for gallant and distinguished service rendered in connection with the military operations at Aden during the period from August 16th, 1917, to January 31st, 1918:—

Amongst them are:

*Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service, India.*—Nursing Sister Miss C. O'Brien; Senior Nursing Sister Miss M. A. Stroughill, R.R.C.

### RULE SHOULD BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

A Matron of a War Hospital writes as follows:—

With reference to the last paragraph in your article, "Protection required for Red Cross Nurses," I beg to point out that Sisters and Staff Nurses in Military Hospitals are afforded the same protection as is given to Officers, with regard to confidential reports. Any Matron sending in an unfavourable report on a member of her staff is bound to read the report to the lady concerned, before it goes further. I should be glad if you will correct this statement, as it is misleading.

This letter refers to the remarks in our last issue on the unjust treatment of members of the Nursing Staff of the Scottish Red Cross Hospital at Rouen.

We know that confidential reports should be read over to the accused by the Matron, but we have in our possession evidence in writing of gross injustice suffered by a Sister in Q.A.I.M.N.S.R. from a breach of this rule, and know of many such cases in Red Cross Hospitals.

It is understood that Orders have been issued that nurses are not to be demobilized from Army hospitals without at least one week's notice, and this week may be given to them as leave of absence.

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