

NURSING ECHOES.

Queen Alexandra was present at Divine Service in the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital Chapel on Easter Day. Her Majesty afterwards visited the hospital, where her visit gave great pleasure.

The names of hundreds of trained nurses and V.A.D.'s appeared in the Press last week, brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for War for valuable services rendered in connection with the war in the Home Commands.

"I hear," says the Clubman in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "that the nurses who have served in France and in the other theatres of war are wondering whether they are to be given the General Service Medal, which, Mr. Winston Churchill recently said in the House, is to be issued shortly.

"It is unbelievable that the nurses who have been through with the soldiers the many hardships of war will be deprived of this distinction. The W.A.A.C.'s who have done gallant service, will wear the medal—so why not the nurses also?"

The Princess Royal opened the Church Army Hostels for Limbless men at Queen's Gate, Kensington—when she said:—"You all know how my heart goes forth to those gallant men who have suffered for the liberties of the world. May these hostels give them comfort and cheer."

Colonel Openshaw said limbless men were likely to live long and would require attention for many years to come.

The output of artificial limbs has increased from 600 per month to about 1,600 per month during the past five years. The Minister for Pensions asked the Church Army to assist, and these hostels for limbless cases are the result.

The Special Committee on the Economic Position of Nurses of the National Council of Women, have issued a comprehensive *questionnaire* and asked matrons of hospitals and infirmaries to kindly furnish replies, and to add any further information they may think would be helpful to the Committee in drawing up a Report. This is a very useful bit of work, and should bring thousands of the earnest women members of the Council into touch with their local hospitals, and promote helpful relations between them.

Salaries and improvements of the conditions under which their nurses work are being considered by the Nursing Committee of the Bradford Royal Infirmary. Ward Sisters' salaries now start at £45, in place of £35 as formerly, with a yearly increase of £5. Senior Sisters are now receiving a salary of £65.

The off-duty time is under consideration, and the Committee are arranging to give each member of the Nursing Staff one day off duty weekly, and to reduce the hours on duty to sixty hours a week.

To meet the necessary increase of staff, extra accommodation and facilities for recreation will be provided, and the post of Home Sister and Sister-Tutor has been created to ensure the welfare of the Nurses, and to assist with their practical and theoretical training.

It is hoped to initiate a preliminary course in the near future.

Staff Nurses who remain a fourth year in the service of the Infirmary at a salary of £40 will be given opportunities to gain experience in some one branch of special nursing, such as massage, X-ray, electrical work, venereal diseases, housekeeping, and administrative work. They will also receive special courses of lectures.

The body of the late Miss Edith Cavell will be brought to this country from Brussels on May 15th, and the interment on the same day will be preceded by a military funeral service at Westminster Abbey. The Admiralty will attend to the actual conveyance of the coffin containing the body, which will probably be landed at Dover. A committee is responsible for the funeral. On leaving the Abbey the cortege will, under military escort, entrain at Liverpool Street for Norwich.

Hospitals or other societies having claims to be represented should apply before May 8 to the Hon. Secretary, Funeral Service Executive Committee, 25, Victoria Street, S.W.1. In no case should application for tickets be made to the Dean or clergy of the Abbey. The accommodation inside the Abbey being limited, individual applications cannot be entertained unless some special claim to be present can be established.

The Nation's Fund for Nurses has now turned its attention to the support of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, and has offered to raise £7,000 a year for three years.

The money is intended to meet the increased cost of the training, supply, and supervision of the nurses, and to enable the local nursing

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)