

Sister Elizabeth McDougall, Sister Ethel Paynter, Sister Mabel Reynar, Sister Pauline Rose, Sister Mary Steele, Sister Martha Stewart, Sister Christina Watling, Sister Leonie Whitworth, Sister Maude Wright, and Sister Charlotte Youngusband.

Civil Hospital Reserve.—Sister Ellen Branson.

Queen Alexandra received at Marlborough House the members of the Military Nursing Services who have been awarded the Royal Red Cross and the Military Medal, subsequent to the Investiture.

ARMY NURSING NOTES.

WAR GRATUITIES FOR MILITARY NURSES SISTERS TO BE GRADED AS LIEUTENANTS

A Royal Warrant has just been issued granting a new and more generous rate of gratuity to members of the Military Nursing Services in recognition of their war services.

The Q.A.I.M.N.S. (Regular) have been given a war gratuity on the same lines as regular officers, *i.e.*, nurses below rank of Principal Matron get a lieutenant's gratuity (£40) for the first year's war service and increments of £1 or 10s. a month (according to whether they have served overseas or only at home) for each subsequent year or part of a year. Principal Matrons are classed with captains (£45), and Matrons-in-Chief with lieutenant-colonels (£75), while all receive the same increments for service subsequent to the first year.

The temporary nurses (Q.A.I.M.N.S.R. and T.F.N.S.) now get a more generous gratuity than that previously provided. Staff nurses get £20 for the first year, Sister £30, and Matrons £40; while all get 10s. a month increment for each subsequent year or part of a year, irrespective of whether their service has been at home or overseas.

A gratuity has also been given to V.A.D. nurses and assistant nurses employed by the War Office. They are to get £10 for the first year, with increments similar to those for the reserve or the T.F.N.S. Nurses who have already drawn gratuities at the old rates may now apply to the paymaster who issued the original gratuities to have them adjusted according to the new or may keep the old in the very few cases where they are more advantageous.

The Royal Warrant will do much to relieve the financial position in which summarily demobilised nurses find themselves, as many have no homes, and need a long rest after their arduous services at home and abroad.

We regret to hear that already nurses returning to civil life are finding difficulty in obtaining work they wish for. We have seen quite a number who naturally do not want to "step down"; they wish to continue Matrons or Sisters, the duties of

which particular offices they have been performing. We sympathise, but are there such posts vacant to go round? We advise those nurses who are really interested in nursing the sick and in helping to uplift social conditions, to qualify themselves for District and Public Service Nursing; they will then be ready to do their part when the Ministry of Health is established.

RETIRED SISTERS TO WEAR UNIFORM.

The King has been pleased, states Army Order 167, to approve that the regulations under which officers may wear uniform after retirement shall be extended to members of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, who retire on retired pay. They will, therefore, be permitted to wear uniform when re-employed in a military hospital, and when attending ceremonials and other functions at which officers appear in uniform, should they desire to do so. Whenever uniform is worn by these members, the distinguishing letter "R" will be worn in the corner of the red cape on right-hand side.

FREE REPATRIATION FOR NURSES.

An Army Council Instruction states that repatriation overseas at the public expense will be granted under the conditions applicable to officers as laid down in Demobilization Regulations, to nurses and V.A.D.'s who proceeded from abroad after the outbreak of war; also to those who were serving on November 11, 1918, in hospitals under direct military control on a six months' or longer agreement.

Applications for passage must in all cases be made within six months of the termination of service in a military hospital, or in the case of those who have already left a military hospital for six months not later than July 31st, 1919.

KING'S CERTIFICATE ON DISCHARGE NOW ISSUABLE TO WOMEN.

The King has approved of the extension of the award of the King's certificate on discharge and the King's second certificate on discharge to members of nursing services and of women formations of the Imperial Forces who were enrolled under a direct contract of service under the Admiralty, War Office, or Air Ministry.

REVERENCE FOR THE DEAD, RESPECT FOR THE LIVING.

A British officer in Mesopotamia writes to the *Times*: "When the accounts for the war are settled and the credit given to whom it is due, a very large portion should go to the nursing sisters who have served in Mesopotamia. Surely no women have risked more than these? The graveyards tell their own story of the Englishwomen who have shared the terrors of the worst climate in the world with Englishmen. Troops who have served in this country will bare their heads in reverence to those who have died and in respect for those who survive."

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