

home-helps may prove very useful, but there is no need for them to pose as "certificated" nurses—for that will be the result of the scheme!

At Wallasey, one Reda Huff (23), who appeared in the dock in nurses' uniform, was charged (1) with giving false information to the manager of the Grove Hotel; (2) with unlawfully wearing the General Service Medal ribbon; (3) with obtaining food of the value of £11 14s. by false pretences, between August 28th and September 23rd; and (4) with stealing two blouses, a dressing jacket, gloves, and other articles, value £6 4s., the property of a lady staying in the hotel.

In regard to wearing the decoration, she said: "I have nothing to say. I did not think it mattered."

A remand for a week was ordered.

The fact that this young woman appeared in the dock in nurses' uniform was apparently quite *comme il faut*.

It is too sad to think that the President of the United States, Mr. Woodrow Wilson, has broken down under the strain of his tremendous labours for peace and arbitration for the world in general just as the time of fruition is in view. As he has a good wife and devoted daughters, it is to be hoped they will whisk him away from world politics, and nurse him back to health. We cannot afford to lose idealists, even if we personally believe in straight and swift action where war is concerned.

In a letter recently received from that wonderful pioneer of good nursing in Australia, Miss Martha D. Farquharson, we conclude that at the age of 72 she really has at last retired from active service, and hopes to rest on her well-won laurels. She writes: "I have only just retired into private life (for the second time), and think now my life's work is finished—as I am well in the autumn of life, seventy-three next December! It was a great joy to me when I resumed my work at Bendigo Hospital as Hon. Matron in April, 1917, to replace Miss Simons, who went to the war. She is now reinstated, and I feel content to take the rest God is so good to give me. It was wonderful to be given, at my age, strength, will and energy to do all a matron's duties for over two years and still retain my good health, and to be able to garden and go about like younger women. I see by the *B.J.N.* you are still full of interest in the advancement of nursing. It is wonderful you are not worn out with the struggle."

PROPOSED LAY CONTROL FOR ALL BRANCHES OF NURSING ANCILLARY TO THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

The Press is informed through a letter addressed by the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, chairman of the Joint War Committee, to county directors, presidents and hon. secretaries that an agreement has been signed by the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John under which the joint working of the two corporations will continue in time of peace.

A joint council is set up to control the work of the two bodies, and will include the members of the existing Joint War Committee, thus preserving continuity between the war and peace organisations.

WORKING WITH THE LEAGUE.

Meanwhile the Charter of the British Red Cross Society is being extended to cover the objects mentioned in Article 25 of the League of Nations Covenant. This article runs as follows:

The members of the League agree to encourage and promote the establishment and co-operation of duly authorised voluntary national Red Cross organisations having as purposes the improvement of health, the prevention of disease, and the mitigation of suffering throughout the world.

EIGHT SECTIONS.

Among the matters the Joint Council are desirous of controlling are:—

- (1) Care of sick and wounded Service men whether on the active list or demobilised.
- (2) Care of prisoners of war, as may still be necessary.
- (3) Care of tuberculosis patients, first regard being paid to soldiers and sailors.
- (4) Child welfare.
- (5) Work parties to provide garments, etc., for hospitals and health institutions.
- (6) Assistance required in all branches of nursing health and welfare work, ancillary to the Ministry of Health.
- (7) Red Cross War and Peace Hospital Library.
- (8) Home service ambulance work.

V.A.D.S AND CHILD WELFARE.

Under this heading Sir Arthur Stanley writes:—

"Nursing in all its branches must necessarily appeal to V.A.D.s who have done so much of this work during the war. Scholarships have already been given to our V.A.D.s in this connection and I hope that those members who either cannot or do not wish to undergo the full training necessary for a certificated nurse, may qualify themselves for rendering that supplementary assistance to the regular profession which they rendered so efficiently, and so successfully in time of war. There will also be many openings for V.A.D.s in connection with the

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