

NURSING ECHOES.

We are indebted to the *Scots Pictorial* for our portrait of Miss Margaret Finlayson Steele, who has been awarded a bar to the Royal Red Cross. Miss Steele, who is a Scotswoman, was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and has been Matron of the Prince of Wales' Hospital for Officers, St. Marylebone, London.

The Secretary of State for India makes the following announcement: In view of the number of applications already received for temporary appointment to Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service for India, no more applications can be accepted at present. If and when further applications are desired, another announcement will be made.

It is reported that eight hundred to a thousand demobilised trained nurses are still registered, as out of work, with the Nurses' Demobilisation and Re-settlement Committee, although some 1,150 applicants have already been secured posts by this means. It is by no means an easy matter to suit all tastes—without some delay—so many trained nurses have during the war held matrons' and sisters' posts, who hope to secure the same rank in civil service. This is quite natural—but we fear somewhat difficult. For five years relays of trained nurses have been certificated and done the civil duty to hand. It is urged that these young nurses should make way for "military heroines." We don't quite follow this argument. Hun-

dreds of nurses threw up their civil duties, and, whether suited or not, rushed off to the various "fronts." Poor Law and private patients have received scant care for several years, and we are informed by some of our most experienced Poor Law matrons that it is impossible to get nurses or probationers for these institutions, although in some cases salaries of £30 are offered to the latter.



MISS MARGARET FINLAYSON STEELE, AWARDED BAR TO R.R.C.
Matron, Prince of Wales' Hospital for Officers, St. Marylebone, London.

In private nursing the competition is already felt from the employment of V.A.D.s, who are picking up many unconsidered trifles in this connection. State Registration is our only remedy, and that modicum of justice, for the present session at least, has been wrenched from us by the unworthy tactics of the College of Nursing, Ltd., and its wrecking group of M.P.s in the House of Commons.

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