

infrequently called. The Association would be specially grateful if flowers could be sent to such old women, who greatly appreciated them.

In proposing votes of thanks, Archdeacon Gresford Jones spoke for the new poor, in whom he included clergymen, doctors, nurses, and other professional people. He was surprised to find that £943 covered the whole salary list for the twenty nurses of the institution. They must not forget their nurses in their work of mercy and self-sacrifice.

As a result of an extraordinary meeting of Camberwell Board of Guardians, held last week, Mr. Edmonds (chairman), presiding, the nursing staffs at Constance Road and Gordon Road institutions, as well as at the Infirmary, received additions to their salaries according to the proposed scale—a welcome Christmas present.

A sensational statement concerning the women nurses at the Mental Hospital, Whitechurch, was made recently at a meeting of the Cardiff Trades and Labour Council. The secretary (Mr. J. E. Edmunds) reported upon complaints which had been received from the Llandaff and Barry Division of the Labour Party as to a proposal to introduce women nurses into the mental hospital now that the institution is reverting to civil use. There was ample evidence, said Mr. Edmunds, that the presence of women nurses in male lunatic wards had an injurious effect upon the inmates, both from the standpoint of discipline and of morals. The attendants stated that during the war, when young V.A.D. nurses new to their work, were in the wards, incidents had occurred which had made the male attendants feel ashamed of their sex in the presence of such young girls. Male attendants maintained that it was unreasonable to expect women nurses to undergo such an ordeal. During the war, added Mr. Edmunds, there was mutiny among the male patients of the institution, and it was only by the arrival of male attendants that the women nurses were saved from serious harm. Two of them, indeed, had to remain in bed in consequence of the injuries they received. The Llandaff and Barry Labour Party felt that the public should be informed of the facts, so that the relatives of male patients and the relatives of the nurses should be able to express their opinions before the suggestion became an established fact.

A resolution was unanimously carried, to be sent to the Home Secretary and the Mental Hospital Visiting Committee of the Cardiff

Corporation, asking them to refrain from putting the proposal into operation.

Colonel Goodall, Medical Officer at the Mental Hospital, has made the statement that two thousand cases of mental disorder among troops have been treated at the institution by trained certificated sisters and staff nurses and probationers, with men to help. "No one," he said, "with experience of the presence, example, and influence of trained female nurses, and all that they stand for with regard to humanity, refinement, and devotion, would wish to replace women by male nurses."

As a result of their experience during the war, the committee had, with the consent of the Board of Control, staffed all the male wards, except acute and epileptic, with female nurses. The statement that the women in the male wards had an injurious moral and disciplinary effect on patients, Dr. Goodall dismissed as grotesquely untrue.

"It is also grossly unjust," he added, "to a most refined class of women, and would be strongly resented. The sensational stories probably emanated from three or four malcontent men at the hospital."

With this medical opinion we agree, but who placed inexperienced V.A.D.s in wards where very special experience is required?

HONOURS FOR NURSES.

The King has conferred decorations as follows:—

BAR TO THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

Miss Elizabeth Dowse, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS AND BAR.

Miss Katharine Skinner, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS (FIRST CLASS).

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.—Miss Gertrude Aitchison, Miss Gwendoline Hughes, Miss M. Ram, and Miss Cecilia Stevens.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Miss Florence Harley.

Territorial Force Nursing Service.—Miss Winifred Attenborough.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS (SECOND CLASS).

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Miss Agnes A'Hern, Miss Margaret Anderson, Miss Mary Andrew, Miss Edith Aylett, Miss Lucy Brawn, Miss Alice Fletcher, Miss Florence Hyndman, Miss Penelope Roberts, and Miss Annetta Sinclair.

Territorial Force Nursing Service.—Miss Portia Batley, Miss Marion Crosbie, Miss Mildred Edwards, Miss Maude Emberson, Miss Florence Henry, and Miss Isabella Stratton.

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