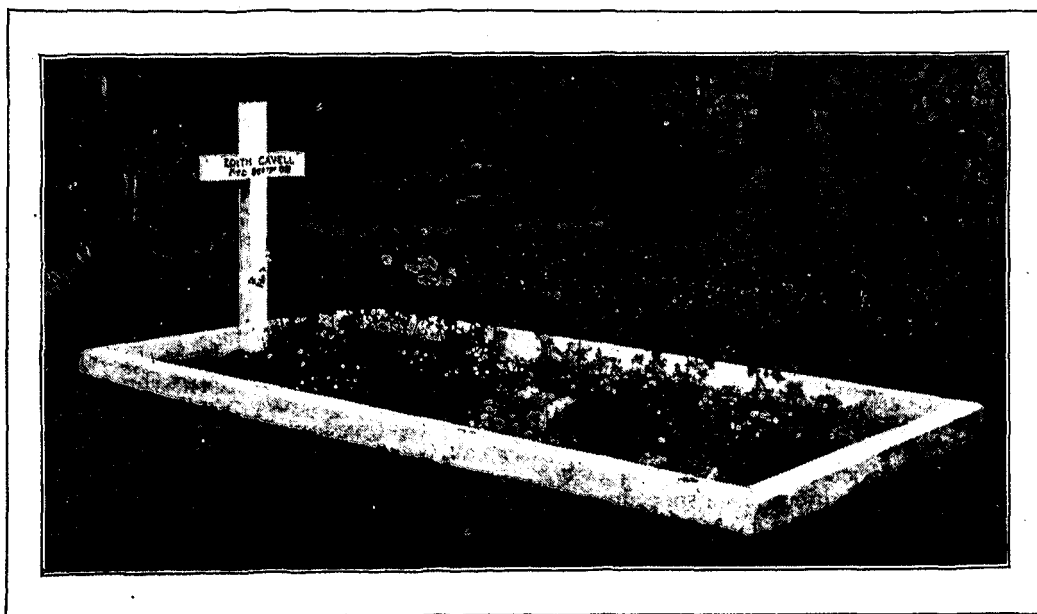


NURSING ECHOES.

The matron (Miss Fitch) of the Alexandra Hospital, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, London, W.C., who is endeavouring to raise £1,000 for the nurses' branch of the building fund of the hospital, issued invitations for an American tea on Saturday, April 17th, to which many friends responded. Every one was asked to bring one article priced for sale, and to buy one article. The attractions included a cake-weighing competition, some delightful music, and tea was served at 6d. a head. The wards were open to inspection, and the little patients, many of whom have been in the hospital for a long

But it was because no one had taken the trouble to remove the now most mournfully dead wreaths that were placed against the monument some weeks ago. There they still were, a hideous rain-soddened litter of rust-red rot, undoing the bright faces of the people who streamed down from the Coliseum for their trains and 'buses for the South-Western suburbs, and putting back into their eyes the sad and weary look they had recently paid to get rid of! Has the care of this monument so soon become nobody's business?

Perhaps an even more hideous note of gloom around the Cavell monument was that sounded by the frightening hoarse voices of the



THE GRAVE OF EDITH CAVELL AT NORWICH.

time, appeared as happy and jolly as possible, and quite ready to do the honours of their wards.

The guardians of St. Giles' Infirmery, Camberwell, propose, subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Health, to award a suitable medal, at a cost of about £2 2s., to the most efficient all-round nurse of the year. Dr. French, F.R.C.S., usually conducts the examinations.

We are not surprised to find the following criticism in Monday's *Daily Chronicle* :—

"Edith Cavell's monument made me blush for my country the other day. It was not because there were no fresh flowers around the base. Floral tribute to the dead is not everybody's taste, and I feel this brave nurse was of the sort who favour "no flowers by request."

hawkers of appallingly ugly "In Memoriam" cards and crinkled paper handkerchiefs, with which the achievements of our noted dead are honoured in the sight of the floating masses of our cities. Why should the manufacturers of these dreadful things have the entire monopoly of the "In Memoriam" trade? Would it not be worth the while of one of our English Christmas-card firms to produce something artistic in this line? It might still be sold in the gutter, and by the same men who hawk the present rubbish; and everyone would be the better off for the change."

Could not a committee of "trained nurses undertake the care of the Cavell Memorial statue, and keep it in beautiful order? To judge from the photograph of Edith Cavell's grave at Norwich reverent care is bestowed upon it.

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