

The committee which carried to its completion the Nurse Cavell memorial is desirous of handing over the monument to public custody.

The Westminster City Council, having no power to incur maintenance charges for the statue, we understand that the First Commissioner of Works will be asked to take over the responsibility of custodianship.

On Monday an artistic tribute was placed at the foot of the Cavell monument by a delegate of the Association Dames des France. It consisted of a sheath of palms in bronze with white silk ribbons bearing in gilt letters the name of the association over a red cross.

Upon Miss Thurston's return to Christchurch, N.Z., after four years' fine Imperial war service as Matron-in-Chief of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in Europe, she had a warm welcome home from her colleagues, but her position as Matron of the Christchurch Hospital was filled during her absence, and we agree with *Kai-Tiaki* that "this was considered scant courtesy to a lady who had borne her part in the war with integrity and credit."

It appears strange that whilst we in reactionary old England are debating whether or no private nurses should have an eight-hours' day, the graduate nurses of the California Hospital at Los Angeles, belonging to the Alumnae, should be petitioning for a twelve-hours' day, because nearly every patient has a special nurse, who remains on duty from sixteen to twenty-four hours! This petition was referred to the Los Angeles County Medical Society, which met members of the Nurses' Association, when an interesting discussion took place.

It was suggested as a remedy to meet the shortage for nurses that a number of nurses might club together and be known as the Community Nursing Service or Hourly Nurses' Club—preferably if they owned automobiles—and cover as much territory in twelve hours as convenient according to the illness of the patients, much as the Public Health Nurse works, and pro rate the charges to each patient.

The same thing might be accomplished in hospitals—one nurse caring for more than one patient on the same floor and pro rate the charges.

The fact is that most hospitals in California are paying concerns—some on a dubious basis. The nurses receive high fees as special nurses, but we are not surprised to learn that in the opinion of Dr. Haynes the average life of a nurse is from eight to ten years!

The *American Journal of Nursing* announces that the Nightingale Memorial Fund to keep alive the memories of those American nurses who died in the war, which is being raised by American Nurses in support of Dr. Anna Hamilton's great work for nursing education in France, now amounts to more than 30,000 dollars (£6,000). It is hoped to raise £10,000, but the time is short. We often notice that work of the highest order goes unsupported, whilst trashy schemes appeal to humanity.

The same Journal reports that:—

"Mlle. Matter and Mlle. Durleman, two French nurses who have been visiting in America during the last few months, will leave soon for Lille, France, where they expect to establish a new nursing school on modern lines. Both are graduates of the Nightingale School at Bordeaux, and have had wide experience in nursing work.

While in New York they have been taking courses as guests of the Department of Nursing and Health, Teachers College, and have visited all the leading hospitals, and public health organisations, where they have been cordially welcomed. They have also made a round of several American cities, and feel that they are returning with many valuable ideas which they hope to apply in their new school.

All those who have had the great pleasure of meeting the French nurses here will watch with much interest the growth of this new child of the Nightingale School at Bordeaux, in which we all feel now that we have a special share."

American army nurses, who are claiming Army rank, won the first round when the Army Re-organisation Bill was before the House of Representatives on March 12th, when "Rank for Nurses" was granted in Committee of the whole House without a dissentient voice. The next step was to gain the approval of the Senate. We hope that by this time it has been secured.

Miss Helen Scott Hay, formerly chief nurse of the American Red Cross Commission to the Balkans, has been appointed as chief nurse of the American Red Cross Commission to Europe, to succeed Miss Alice Fitzgerald, who was promoted to be the Chief Nurse (Director) of the League of Red Cross Societies. Miss Hay has worked in Russia, Bulgaria, and the Balkans during the war, and was decorated by the Russian Government in 1915 with the Gold Cross of St. Anne, and by the King of Bulgaria with the Bulgarian Royal Red Cross in recognition of "splendid service done in the fulfilment of her profession."

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