

to sweep away camouflage, which was a product of the war, and get down to the basic rock of sacrifice, but she felt confident that if our Ministry of Health would adopt that course our Public Health Service would become like our British Nursing Service—the finest in the world.

Miss Eleanor Barton suggested that nurses gained a very intimate knowledge of the very poor in poor law infirmaries, and Miss Alderman agreed, but said, "The Ministry of Health does not recognise our poor law. The Ministry hasn't the sense to utilize that training."

In reply to a question as to the age limit for Health Visitors, she elicited applause by expressing the opinion that it was as long as you are fit for work.

Various nurses at the back of the hall asked questions as to what "the women of the educated and cultured classes" were to do at twenty years of age.

Miss J. H. Macdonald (Registered Nurses' Society) proposed that nurses should make a start here and now, and should have done with the unskilled (whether cultured and educated or not); let the women with the best brains, the best hands and the best skill have the best chance. (Applause.)

THE PROFESSIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Miss Maude MacCallum, the next speaker, said that the first and crying need of the nursing profession is to organise. It was the duty of every nurse to belong to some organisation—to the Professional Union of Trained Nurses if she felt so inclined.

The Professional Union of Trained Nurses differed from every other society of nurses in England, Scotland and Wales in being registered under the Trades Union Acts. This necessitated its being governed entirely by its members. The Labour clauses of the Peace Treaty between the Allied and Associated Powers and Germany stated that the High Contracting Parties agreed "to the right of Association for all lawful purposes by the employed as well as by the employers." Now that Trade Unionism was recognised by international law it seemed futile for associations of employers to fight against it. Members of a trade or profession should band themselves together to protect their own special interests, and to protect the weak amongst them from being trampled on and crushed. She invited them to join the Professional Union of Trained Nurses (17, Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W.1), and to do it now.

Questioned on the subject of strikes, Miss MacCallum said the Union had no Strike Clause. Strikes were out of fashion, and Arbitration was now the recognised method of settling differences.

HOURS OF PRIVATE NURSING.

Miss Sheldon, in the absence of Miss Bremner read her paper on "Hours of Private Nursing," on which there was quite a brisk discussion.

HONOURS FOR NURSES.

His Majesty the King held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace on June 25th, and bestowed the following Orders and Decorations on nurses:—

THE MOST EXCELLENT ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

Military Division.—Miss Mary Stewart, Q.A.I.M.N.S., Commander.

BAR TO THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

Miss Elizabeth Wilson, T.F.N.S.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS (FIRST CLASS).

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.—Miss Amy Fielding, Miss Alice Gilmore, Miss Katharine Lowe.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Miss Elizabeth Downie, Miss Mabel Hobhouse, Miss Janet Livingston.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS (SECOND CLASS).

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve.—Miss Jean Crawford, Miss Rose Davy, Miss Annie Falconer, Miss Louisa Fox, Miss Louisa Hanson, Miss Ellen Harris, Miss Mary Linton, Miss Millicent Perry, Mrs. Georgina White.

Territorial Force Nursing Service.—Mrs. Gwendoline Arnold, Miss Julia Comyns-Berkeley, Miss Emilie Cottle, Miss Esther Farmer.

Civil Nursing Service.—Miss Aimée Densham, Miss Jane Hammick.

British Red Cross Society.—Miss Helen Anderson, Mrs. Gertrude Clenshaw, Miss Marjorie Hamilton-Dalrymple, Mrs. Ethel Darley.

Civil Hospital Reserve.—Miss Ada Rushforth.

Civil and War Hospitals.—Miss Ellen Clarke, Miss Ethel Forster, Miss Elizabeth Gordon.

Voluntary Aid Detachment.—Miss Grace Currie, Miss Katherine Evans, Miss Dorothy Field, Miss Catherine Forrestal, Miss Gwendolen Glossop, Miss Silvia Glossop, Miss Margaret Greatorex, Miss Mary Hudson, Miss Olga Nethersole, Miss Kathleen Roberts.

THE MILITARY MEDAL.

Miss Edith Hounslow, V.A.D.

Queen Alexandra received at Marlborough House the members of the Military and Civil Nursing Services who have been awarded the Royal Red Cross and the Military Medal, subsequent to the Investiture at Buckingham Palace.

Miss A. B. Smith, R.R.C. (Matron-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service), was also received by her Majesty.

THE PASSING BELL.

By the tragic death of the Countess of Dudley, drowned while bathing on the Connemara coast last Saturday, the sick poor of Ireland have lost a warm friend, with a genius for kindness and discriminating helpfulness. Lady Dudley realised the need for trained nurses in the outlying districts of the West of Ireland, and in making provision for this necessity insisted that the nurses should possess the qualifications of fully trained Queen's Nurses. She was one of those who used the opportunities of her high position to benefit humanity, and can ill be spared.

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