

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH.

SISTER EVA M. PENROSE.

We present herewith the portrait of Sister Eva Mary Penrose, Secretary of the South Australian Branch of the Royal British Nurses' Association and Matron of the Nurses' Home, the property of the branch, situated at Dequetteville Terrace, Kent Town, one of the most convenient suburbs in Adelaide. Sister Penrose was born at Weston-super-Mare, England, and when quite young came with her parents to South Australia. She was educated in Adelaide, and on the completion of her studies embarked on her nursing training at the Adelaide Hospital. There she remained for three years, when, having successfully passed all her examinations, she took up general nursing. On two occasions she acted temporarily as Matron of the Royal British Nurses' Association Home, during the absence of Miss Benallack, who was then in charge; and in July, 1915, she was officially appointed to the positions of Matron and Secretary. It may be mentioned that Miss Penrose only applied for the position after she had failed in her application to join the Australian Nursing Service with the Expeditionary Forces. Miss Penrose was not long in discovering that her new post was anything but a bed of roses, for the absence of the majority of the Nurses of the Association at the front made the carrying on of the institution an extremely difficult matter. But those in charge were not dismayed, and stuck valorously to their posts, and with Miss Penrose's valuable assistance successfully weathered the storm. Only those in close touch with the inner workings of the Branch know what a strenuous time was passed through. The question of the renovation of the Home was

a pressing one, but it was a matter in which delay was impossible and a good deal of ready money had to be obtained for the carrying out of the work. It was deemed advisable to dispose of a valuable site on South Terrace, Adelaide, that had been purchased with a view to erecting a Home upon it. After paying off £300 last year, the Branch to-day has a liability of something like £1,400 on its books. Against that it has a splendid Home, which, on a pinch, can accommodate something like forty nurses. For three years the Home has been the headquarters of the Army Nurses' Club, but this arrangement is now about to terminate. The South Australian Branch

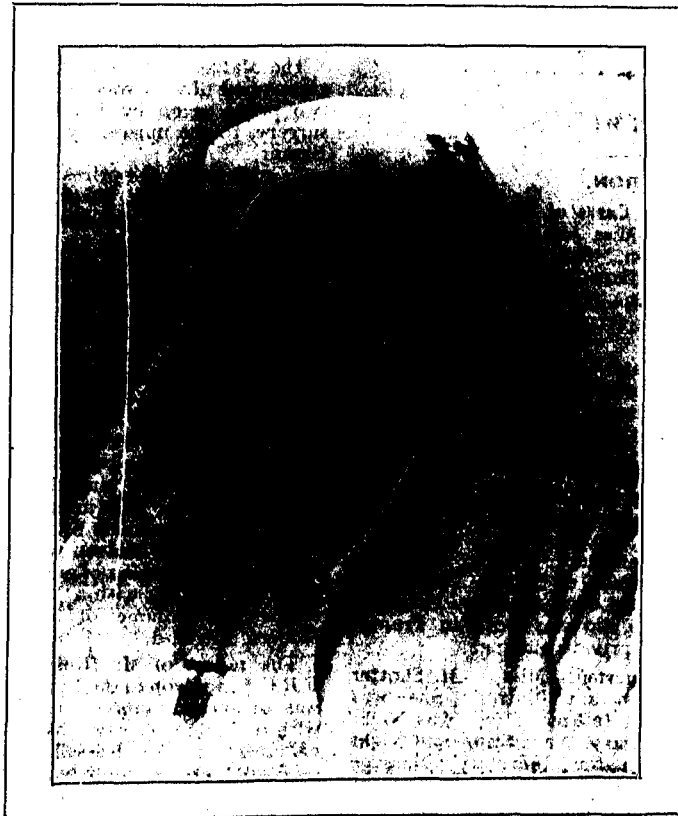
possesses about 530 members, a total that is being added to every half-year. The Home is exceedingly well patronised, and there is no doubt that before long the question of enlarging the building will have to be taken into consideration. Fortunately, there is any amount of land to permit of this being done, and the contiguity of the Home to the city makes it popular with medical men and nurses alike. Sister Penrose has proved an ideal Matron. She has "carried on" in the most economical manner, performing her strenuous duties most tactfully and efficiently, and in a way that has earned her the respect and esteem of

everyone connected with the institution. The Association has, indeed, been fortunate in retaining her services, and it is to be hoped that it will be long before she severs her connection with the Home.

APPOINTMENT.

Miss Jean Gunn, M.R.B.N.A., has been appointed Sister at Kilmarnock Infirmary. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.



SISTER EVA M. PENROSE,
Secretary South Australian Branch, R.B.N.A.

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