

needed for so long. Various items for our practical instruction have been acquired from time to time, including some excellent models.

Next summer the weather will not affect us—much. There will be a hard tennis court provided for the nursing staff; and if it rains we'll go swimming.

Another important feature is the renovation of the hospital kitchen. It has been successfully in use for several days, and we can confidently say it must compare very favourably with any newly-built modern institutional culinary arrangements. When the rest of the rebuilding is completed, we shall be very pleased if it comes up to the standard of the kitchen.

Plans have also been approved for the provision of another sixty beds for patients including seventeen 'pay' beds, and it is hoped they will be ready for use within the next twelve months.

In conclusion, we are glad to think that our Nurses' Home will be a lasting memorial worthy of the kindness of the late Mr. Charles Heath Clark."

It was with intense relief that those who realised the peril of Miss E. Gomersall, a British nurse belonging to the China Inland Mission, carried off by Mongolian brigands, with a patient she was taking to Peking for an operation, learned that they had been rescued, and taken safely to Pautouchem. We are of opinion, however, that while the country is so unsettled missionary societies should temporarily withdraw their unprotected women missionaries from outlying districts. They cause great anxiety and embarrassment to the authorities as well as to their colleagues, and could more suitably work in the cities.

The following is an instance of the good work done by the Kentucky Frontier Nursing Service. A little boy with a tubercular hip who went down eleven months ago to the Children's Free Hospital in Louisville, and has just come back, remembered the horseback ride out, and spoke up from his seat behind the rider coming in: 'I've most forgot what it feels like to be a'hurtin'."

### MEMORIAL TO MISS K. V. MACINTYRE.

We have received from Miss F. M. Graham, Hon. Secretary of a scheme to organise a Memorial to the late Miss K. V. Macintyre, Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Wigan, a request to publish the subjoined circular letter, so that it may be brought to the notice of her pupils and friends.

#### THE LETTER.

You will regret to learn that Miss K. V. Macintyre, who was Matron of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, for a period of twenty-six years, died on February 21st last.

Those who were privileged to work with, and were trained by her, have lost a very staunch friend.

A desire has been expressed by a number of her old nurses, members of the staff, and many personal friends, to erect a stained glass window in the Infirmary Chapel as a memorial to her.

It is felt that many will be glad to participate in this tribute, and any contributions, however small, can be sent to any of the undersigned:—

C. C. THICKNESSE, "The Hall," Wigan, Chairman.  
A. M. LAMB, "Eskdale" Birkdale, Hon. Treasurer.  
Miss T. BRIGGS, 97, Canning Street, Liverpool.

Miss R. GOULD, 97, Canning Street, Liverpool.  
E. HODKINSON MONKS, Regent House, Wigan.  
Miss F. M. GRAHAM, 127, Mesnes Road, Wigan, Hon. Secretary.

We give publicity to this letter with very great pleasure, for from personal acquaintance with Miss Macintyre of many years' standing, we have a very great regard for her sterling qualities and fine courageous spirit, as well as of her success as head of a Nurse Training School. She was a pioneer in the movement for State Registration of Trained Nurses, and a Foundation Member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

### EDITH CAVELL.

As all the world knows, Miss Edith Cavell, charged with aiding soldiers of the Allied armies to escape from Belgium, was shot at dawn on October 12th, 1915, at the Tir National, in Brussels.

The posthumous letters of the Marqués de Villalobar who was Spanish Minister in Belgium during the German occupation, have thrown fresh light upon the tragedy.

A few days before the execution, General von Bissing, the German Governor of Belgium, had left Belgium on account of illness and had appointed General von Saubertzweig as Military Governor of Brussels. He alone, declares the Marqués, was responsible for the execution.

On the evening of October 11th, 1915, the Marqués was at dinner with Baron Lambert-Rothschild, when Mr. Gibson, First Secretary of the United States Legation, accompanied by M. de Laval, a Belgian advocate, who was adviser to the Legation, came to see him on a matter of urgency. Mr. Gibson told him that the trial of Princess Marie de Croy, Mme. Thuilliez, and the Countess Jeanne de Belleville, was proceeding, but that Miss Cavell's was over, and that she had been condemned to death, and was to be executed at dawn. Mr. Brand Whitlock, the United States Minister, who was in bed with a high fever, had sent Mr. Gibson to ask the Marqués to take his place in appealing to the German authorities at least for the postponement of the execution.

The Marqués immediately set off to see Baron von der Lancken, knowing, however, that he had not much influence with General von Saubertzweig . . . Very late he succeeded in having a conference with the Baron, and a keen discussion took place on the mistake that the execution would be. In the end the Baron agreed to try to stop it. The Spanish Minister accompanied the Baron to General von Saubertzweig's residence and waited in his motor-car outside the house to learn the result of the interview. Baron von der Lancken came out, very pale, and said, "I could not get anything out of him." The Marqués reports the Baron's conversation with the General, whom he had begged to defer the execution. The discussion had ended with these words addressed to the General: "The blood of this woman will fall on you and your children." The Marqués then asked the Baron to appeal by telephone to the Kaiser, who was then at Spa, but the Baron could not get into communication with his Majesty. Nothing more could be done, and the execution took place in the morning of October 12th, at 7 o'clock, at the Tir National.

A few weeks later the Baron told the Marqués that when the Emperor learned of the execution he was very angry, and reprimanded those who had permitted it to take place.

Months afterwards the Marqués had the honour of dining alone with King George and Queen Mary, and after he had explained to them the details of the tragedy the King said to him, "It is a relief for me to learn that the German Emperor was not responsible for such a crime."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)