

annual subsidies to the various stations leaving it to these stations to make up the balance required for their maintenance, a policy which has been more than justified, as, instead of the large deficit which had appeared imminent, the financial statement at the end of 1932 showed a balance in hand which then amounted to £101 8s. and the Committee felt it would therefore be possible to expand the work in rural areas and to open new stations at Kalkbank and Mount Frere early in the present year.

In her Report to Her Excellency, the Countess of Clarendon, the Secretary-Superintendent writes that closing the centres at Kroonstad and Ladysmith meant dispensing with the services of seven nurses—all of them being nurses she was very sorry to lose, but she reports that all have succeeded in obtaining good appointments.

them, not only for the way they have worked, but for their loyalty to the Order and to myself."

The second International Air Ambulance Congress at Madrid, the Monthly Bulletin of the League of Red Cross Societies reports, gave much consideration to the equipment of air ambulances, their stability, and the protection of passengers from both the physiological and pathological standpoints.

Our illustration is of a Red Cross plane in use for the first time at the Croydon Aerodrome, when the first British Red Cross Air Ambulance was inaugurated on August 11th. Official sanction has been given for a scheme of Red Cross Air Ambulances, to be established at all aerodromes throughout the country.

Speaking at Bedford College on June 23rd on the occasion of the presentation of certificates to the Inter-

national students, we remarked that nothing is mythical in our humanism. Not even those aerial visions, the Valkyrie, who conducted the souls of warriors worthy to be slain in battle to Valhalla, the Palace of Immortality in which such heroic souls for ever dwell. Are not the nurses who now staff our aerial ambulances the direct emulators of the maidens of Odin?

Those nurses who visited lovely Fiesole, above Florence, on their way to the International Anti-Tuberculosis Congress at Rome in 1928 will learn with great interest that the Italian Red Cross has founded a Home of Rest for

nurses there, which was recently officially inaugurated by H.R.H. the Dowager Duchess of Aosta. The inaugural speech was delivered by a blinded war veteran, the Deputy Del. Croix, who paid tribute to the generous thought of Italian nurses, which prompted them to raise this monument to the memory of their comrades who had lost their lives in the performance of their duty.

The names of the Italian nurses fallen in the War were read by the Marchesa di Targiani Giunti, head of the Italian Red Cross Nursing Corps, to whom the fund for the erection of the Home was handed over by Italian nurses on the day on which she was awarded the Florence Nightingale medal. The Duchess of Aosta then severed a ribbon with a pair of scissors belonging to one of the deceased nurses. One of the rooms is named after Florence Nightingale.



Red Cross Nurses attending a patient beside the first-aid air ambulance at Croydon.

Miss Pritchard quotes the following remark in a letter from Mrs. D. R. Biggs, the Hon. Secretary, at Louisvale, when sending her subscription: "At present Sister Vaughan has a lot of work, and is getting no rest night or day. I wish I could make some wealthy people realise the wonderful work done by the lone nurses of the Order. If ever there was a worthy cause it is yours, and so few people know of it, or are interested enough to offer help."

Miss Pritchard says: "The King Edward Nurses usually have a hard time and very little social life, but they keep their interest in the work and are very cheerful in spite of having to rough it so often. In spite of the many drawbacks to working in remote areas, the nurses are obviously happy or they would not have remained so many years on the staff. They have, one and all, done good work, and I take this opportunity of thanking

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)