

Members of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses, founded by the late Fr. Russell in 1876 "to help nurses spiritually in their work and life," will learn with satisfaction both that the important office of Superior of the Guild which has been vacant since the resignation of Miss Metcalfe in June has been filled, and that Miss S. A. Villiers, J.P., S.R.N., has consented to accept the position.

Miss Villiers is well known in the nursing world not only in this country but also overseas, where the Guild has a considerable membership.

She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and was for many years Matron of the South Western Hospital, Stockwell, under the Metropolitan Asylums Board. She has held important positions in various organisations of nurses, and is at present the Hon. Secretary of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, through which she comes into contact with the large majority of organised nurses' associations in this country. She has been a member of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales since its establishment in 1920, representing the interests of Fever Nurses, and the fact that she has been returned again at successive elections proves that they consider their interests have been well served. We congratulate the Guild on its new Superior.

Miss M. G. Montgomery, formerly Matron of the Middlesex Hospital, London, gave an interesting talk recently, at the Women's Institute, North Malvern, on "A day in the life of a hospital nurse." Miss

Montgomery said that when she was invited to speak on this subject she had the same qualms as she had felt many years ago, when, as a probationer at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, she was handed a notice directing her to write a full account of that day's work to be delivered to Miss Florence Nightingale the next morning. There was no "off duty," for her that day, and very little sleep in the night following, but she was recompensed by the letter of commendation she subsequently received from Miss Nightingale, who always had these diaries, which had to include a detailed

account of the day's happenings, with special reference to patients, sent to her from time to time.

When appointed a Sister, Miss Montgomery went to see Miss Nightingale, then very infirm, at her house in South Street, Park Lane. She was propped up in bed, and one of her first questions was, "Are my nurses keen?" and then added gruffly, "Make my nurses keen." Then, in a gentler tone, she said, "You may kiss me now."

"Florence Nightingale," said Miss Montgomery, "was a martinet, but the most marvellous of women."



MISS S. A. VILLIERS, J.P., S.R.N., F.B.C.N.
Superior of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses.

It is announced by the Registrar of the Nurses' Board, 352, Collins Street, Victoria, Australia, that State Registered Caps are obtainable only at the office of the Board, and that they must not be transferred to any other person, as the wearing of these by any unregistered person renders the wearer liable to prosecution under the Nurses' Acts.

The story told by a contemporary of the Emperor Menelik and his ideas as to medical treatment proves the present Emperor of Abyssinia, who is keenly interested in providing the latest medical treatment and equipment for his troops, to be greatly in advance of his famous predecessor.

Once when Mme. Stévenin, wife of a prominent member of the French colony at Addis Ababa, was seriously ill with fever, Menelik inquired what treatment she was receiving. Being told she was being dosed with quinine he expressed strong disapproval, and declared that there was only one remedy, which

he would supply. Shortly after there arrived a large pot of very rancid butter, with instructions that the lady must take three glasses of it every day. The butter, stated the message, had been stored for two years, and would be found an infallible remedy.

The present was gratefully acknowledged—and promptly buried. When the lady recovered the Emperor took all the credit, and expressed a hope that benighted European doctors would in future apply the butter cure in all similar cases.

Surely a remedy worse than the disease.

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