

restrictive atmosphere into the nursing school, but there are limits to go as you please, and good taste should certainly be retained. In giving publicity to a well-conceived scheme of a "trial year" for Student Nurses, the military Chairman of the hospital to which the school would be attached has inadvertently sounded a note of alarm in the following statement to the press. He is reported to have stated that the students would during the initial year wear overalls and not uniform and "there will be no restrictions as to dress or cosmetics other than what good taste should naturally suggest."

This allusion to "cosmetics" has sounded a note of alarm in Matron's office, and we quote from a communication from Miss H. Hanks, Matron of St. George's Hospital, which appeared recently in *The Times*, in which she writes:—

"As matron of one of the large teaching hospitals in London I am in complete sympathy with the general outline of the scheme, but I venture to query whether this particular inducement is likely to attract the best type of candidate. It is a bad day for nursing when freedom of dress and cosmetics is held out as a lure to enter one of the finest professions open to women, and I for one deprecate such a recruiting slogan as this is well likely to prove. . . The standard of living of nurses has been transformed of late years, and rightly so: let us not lower the standard of the qualities we demand in return of our nurses. The face that looks too often and too long in the glass is not the face we want to see at our bedsides in time of sickness and anxiety."

The heads of our training schools will all agree with the "good taste" of Miss Hanks' professional logic as to the use of cosmetics—especially when inartistically applied. But whilst condemning the "clown's mouth" produced by "lipstick" we do plead for a judicious use of a little powder on shiny noses—we dislike shiny noses and rumpled eyebrows—and whilst deploring waste of time in the overlong study of one's face in the looking glass we would plead for "tidy" faces to be in character with the neat appearance which is one of a nurse's greatest charms.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of a hundred and eighteen nurses to be Queen's Nurses, trained in England and Wales, in Scotland, and in Ireland.

No work is of greater national value than that done with so much devotion by Queen's Nurses.

The Queen's Institute of District Nursing has a great asset in our lovely gardens. From this year's report, organised by the Scottish branch, the record sum of £6,774 has resulted—an increase of more than £600 over last year's figures. The sum includes £250 from the Royal gardens at Balmoral.

As in previous years, half the proceeds from the garden openings have been retained in the counties, to be applied to nursing purposes in their respective areas.

The headquarters' share has been equally divided between the Scottish Queen's Nurses' Pension Fund and helping toward meeting the necessary expenditure required for the training of Queen's Nurses in Scotland.

Income from the gardens in the counties was accounted for as follows:—

Aberdeen, £400; Angus, £238; Argyll, £172; Ayr, £665; Banff, £49; Berwick, £262; Caithness, £67; Clackmannan, £92; Dumfries, £142; Dumbarton, £97; East Lothian, £607; Fife, £246; Inverness, £85; Kincardine, £271; Kirkcudbright, £50; Lanark, £387; Midlothian, £478; Midlothian, Edinburgh Gardens, £94; Moray, £225; Nairn, £22; Peebles, £131; Perth and Kinross, £228; Renfrew, £159; Ross, £136; Roxburgh and Selkirk, £680; Stirling, £138; Sutherland, £115; West Lothian, £197; Wigtown, £22; Glasgow, D.N.A., £14.

The gardens scheme committee have placed on record their gratitude for the King's handsome contribution from Balmoral. They have also expressed appreciation of the services given by all who helped to make the scheme a success.

Miss Winifred Rogers, a State Registered Nurse, trained at Charing Cross Hospital and at present working in Jerusalem, demanded, when the British troops marched in, to be allowed to go into one of the rebel areas, where even the soldiers had not yet penetrated, because she knew that people had been without food there for days, unable to venture out because of the firing. The Colonel in charge told her that it was impossible to guarantee her safety, declined to give her an escort, and warned her of the risk of entering the area alone. Nevertheless she went. She found three natives willing to take the risk and, wearing a white apron with a red cross on it, entered the area, with bread in basket trolleys. Half-starved men and women cried at the sight of the food and kissed the loaves. Altogether Miss Rogers and her companions distributed 6,000 loaves.

Miss Rogers for the last nine years has been working in Jerusalem, and her work, which includes training Arab girls in midwifery, has twice been officially recognised. She received the King's Medal in King George V's Jubilee Honours List and was awarded the M.B.E. in last year's Coronation Honours List.

The Journal of the Christian Medical Association reports that the work of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund has been expanded by the formation of two new branches of the fund in Orissa and Sind.

The balance of the Silver Jubilee Fund has been earmarked entirely for grants for rebuilding and improving nurses' quarters, for increasing teaching equipment in the training schools for nurses and for other funds connected with the well-being of the nurses. The council has been impressed with the need for a better educated and better trained nursing service, which can only be possible under better living and training conditions.

A PROUD BOAST.

"I never barked when out of season;
I never bit without a reason;
I ne'er insulted weaker brother;
Nor wronged by force or fraud another.
Though brutes are placed a rank below,
Happy for man could he say so!" —Blacklock.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)