

"Registered" Nurses are apparently not required. "Trained," semi-trained, and untrained women are eligible for service in the Civil Nursing Reserve.

The Scottish Central Emergency Committee for the Nursing Profession, Department of Health for Scotland, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, will answer all questions on the Civil Nursing Reserve.

The Editor of this journal is old enough to remember the whirlwind campaign throughout the country when the great Gladstone aroused its conscience in the last century over the horrors of the "Armenian Atrocities." We lived under a great Queen in those days who wielded her sceptre with no uncertain swirl.

No sooner said than done. The inspirer of the horrible massacres, known as "the Damned," was speedily removed from power.

This is a little preamble to the question, Have you read the Government's White Paper on conditions at Buchenwald and Dachau, the Nazi concentration camps?

Under the present regime, the White Paper states, conditions in Germany and the treatment accorded to Germans are reminiscent of the "darkest ages in the history of man." Unmerciful floggings and other forms of punishment and brutal ill-treatment which drove many men insane. Probably the grimmest reading ever found within the covers of a British Government publication—many of the details given are too revolting for general circulation.

Not a nursing matter! But, indeed, yes! We are humanity's servants; we must know and protest when humanity lies mangled in the dust. And what of the Government's long silence? What is strange is that the British Government, having long had this material in their possession, should have apparently not allowed it to influence their endeavours to come to a friendly agreement with the Nazi regime. Yes; it is our duty to study this White Paper—it should be inscribed in scarlet—and we commend it to our readers in neutral countries as well as at home.

On the first page of last month's issue of *The Canadian Nurse*, Miss Fairley, President of the Canadian Nurses' Association, tells its members that the time has come when they must be ready to render National Service in a National Emergency. Her message runs as follows:—
"For the second time in the lives of most of us, we are at War"—These words, spoken by His Majesty the King, could not fail to stir the emotions of all who heard him. The National Emergency that we had all so fervently prayed might pass is with us, and we as members of a profession so eminently prepared by training and experience are likely to be called to Service.

Whether that Service will be at home or abroad, one cannot, at this early date, foretell. The Canadian Nurses' Association will follow the paths of its members with deep interest and affection, knowing that whatever duty lies ahead they will do it.

Words are so inadequate in times like these that one can do no better than quote again from the King's address to his people:—

"I ask them to stand calm and firm and united in this

time of trial . . . and reverently commit our cause to God. May He bless and keep us all."

Miss Jean Wilson, the Executive Secretary, writes:—

Once again, the call for military service has come to the nurses of Canada. At this time it is not possible to foresee to what extent nurses will be needed for military service. Until this is decided by the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps, under the direction of the Department of National Defence, the best and only preparation that the nurses of Canada can make is to indicate their willingness to serve if needed.

The requirements for enlistment, as a Nursing Sister under the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps in the non-permanent division, are as follows:—

(a) A British subject, and physically fit for military service.

(b) Under forty-five years of age. Unmarried, or a widow without children.

(c) A Graduate of a School of Nursing accredited by the Canadian Nurses' Association, and registered in a Provincial Registered Nurses' Association.

The enrolment of nurses throughout Canada under the Joint Enrolment plan of the Canadian Red Cross Society and the Canadian Nurses' Association is most important at this time. The complete list of nurses enrolled under the Canadian Red Cross Society is at the Headquarters Office of the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps in Ottawa, and in the administration office of each Military District in Canada. These lists are kept up to date by the Headquarters Office of the Canadian Red Cross Society in Toronto.

Perhaps before this issue of *The Canadian Nurse* is in the hands of the nurses, definite plans may have been undertaken in different parts of Canada. If so, all calls will find the nurses of Canada ready and anxious to serve.

INTERNATIONAL NURSING.

We are indeed glad to note that the tragedy of Poland is inspiring generous help from this country and others. If only we had youth we could have organised a "Polish Flag Nursing Corps" for service in France, on the lines of the "French Flag Nursing Corps," which earned such universal praise for gallant service to the brave poilus from 1915 to 1919. How is it that so little *esprit* is to be found in our ranks in these days? Presumably the damping down of professional inspiration by lay patronage and social control accounts for it!

Our I.C.N. is suffering serious depletion. First Austria—now Poland—and how about Finland? Led by the Baroness Mannerheim, the nurses of Finland have for 20 years been enthusiastic supporters of international nursing. Not so Russia.

How well we remember the little group of Finnish nurses who attended the Congress at Cologne in 1912. How they were shadowed by the Russian police, and thus silenced in conference, and what home truths these officers were compelled to overhear from free-speaking Britons!

At that time the Tsar's Manifesto of 1899 and the new Military Law were regarded in Finland as a virtual abolition of the constitutional liberties solemnly guaranteed to the Grand Duchy by the Tsar Alexander I. Now, as a Republic, Finland is face to face with even more dangerous tyranny from Moscow.

Read Boris Souvarine's "Life of Stalin," and realise the developments of the Bolshevik creed.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)