

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A NURSE AT THE FRONT.

The pictures which appear in these columns illustrate incidents in "A Day in the Life of a Nurse at one of the Casualty Clearing Stations with the B.E.F."

Although at present there are not many wounded soldiers, the hospitals are kept busy with cases of sickness and accidents, all of which require expert and skilled care.

### OUR EXCHANGES.

Now that the nursing world appears less alive internationally owing to the war, we welcome the more "our Exchanges," the national nursing journals which still keep us in touch with the profession we love. The New Zealand Nursing Journal, "Kai Tiaki," *The Watcher*—*The Guardian*, for February is full of interest.

So far the press has given very little publicity to the contingents of nurses who are attached to Dominion troops now in Europe and elsewhere, on the splendid duty of helping to make the world worthy of human existence.

#### NURSE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST ECHELON.

To quote our New Zealand contemporary:—

"We who went overseas in the last war look with envy on these sisters, who, in their smart uniforms, so unlike ours, are going forth on a great adventure," said Miss A. Buckley, president of the Canterbury branch of the Registered Nurses' Association at a reception held recently in honour of the nurses from Burnham Mobilisation Camp, who have left with the First Echelon for service overseas. The gathering arranged by the Canterbury branch of the Registered Nurses' Association and the Overseas Women War Workers was held in the Tudor room at Beath's, and was attended by about 150 nurses and war workers, including many who had served in the Boer War. The guests of honour were:—

Sisters K. G. Hall, N. B. Corson, M. G. Coulston, C. M. Lucas, and M. G. Moore. Sister Hodges, who will also accompany them, was unable to be present.

"The sisters were each presented with a posy of red, white and blue flowers, and a similar compliment was paid to Miss Buckley and to Miss Jean Erwin, matron of the Southern Command. After wishing the nurses God-speed and a safe return, Miss Buckley presented each with a pair of surgical scissors and forceps with the good wishes of the nurses and overseas war workers. Sister Erwin, in introducing the principal guests, said that in them the nursing service would be ably represented, and the traditions

established by New Zealand nurses in the last war would be upheld.

"Take care of your health, for good health is most important on active service; if you are ill, come back to New Zealand." This was the advice given to the departing nurses by Miss F. Wilson, who was at one time matron-in-chief of the New Zealand Army Nursing Service. The nurses who were going overseas were to be congratulated on being chosen for military service, Miss Wilson continued, and she was confident that they would do honour not only to the nurses but to all the women of New Zealand.

"Messages of good will were received from Miss Lambie, Director of Nursing Services; Miss M. G. Havelaar, president of the Christchurch branch of the National Council of Women; Miss I. Willis, matron-in-chief of the N.Z. Army Nursing Service; the sisters of the Christchurch Hospital, who were unable to be present, and several nurses who had seen service in the last war. Buffet tea was served, and the guests of honour renewed acquaintance with former friends and made many new acquaintances, all of whom joined in wishing them health and happiness in their work and a safe return."

#### "THE NAVY IS HERE."

Cheering wildly, thousands of people crowded every vantage-point as *Achilles*, New Zealand's victor in the River Plate battle, glided into Auckland harbour on February 23rd.

An escort of planes flew overhead; ships' sirens sounded and motor-car horns added to the joyful din.

The New Zealand Government gave the victors a public reception.

At a special luncheon the Mayor of Auckland, Sir Ernest Davis, presented Captain Parry with Nelson's first midshipman's dirk, one of a collection of Nelson's relics.

The Mayor asked Captain Parry to retain the dirk during the commission of the *Achilles* and hand it over to the H.M.S. *Victory* trustees on returning to England.

Auckland observed the day as a special holiday.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Dominions Secretary, sent a message to the New Zealand Government praising the part played in the River Plate battle by the *Achilles*.

#### MARGARET BREAY.

Most of the Dominion exchanges have sympathetic references to the death of Margaret Breay, after a life's devotion to the uplift of the Profession of Nursing.

To quote *The Canadian Nurse*:

"A gallant figure passed from the earthly scene when



Photo :]

[Bipha.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A NURSE WITH THE B.E.F.  
At the entrance to one of the Marquees.

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