

NURSING ECHOES.

It is announced that the Queen has accepted £15,000 from the Maharajah of Darbhanga in memory of his wife, who died on October 21.

The Maharajah suggested that the money should be devoted to such war efforts as "were dear to his wife," and requested that £5,000 should be spent on any object approved by the Queen with which the women of the Empire are connected. The greater portion of the rest is to be devoted to objects connected with nursing, and the remainder may be used for providing woollen jerseys to soldiers serving abroad.

There is one Royal lady whose unassuming devotion to duty day by day is an example to us all.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester holds the responsible office of Air-Commandant of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force—one of the most popular organisations staffed by women.

We present a picture of the Duchess in her simple yet becoming uniform.

Just now Her Royal Highness is taking an active interest in "Caledonia," the Duke of Buccleuch's town house at 2, Grosvenor Place, Hyde Park Corner, of which he has given the use to the Association of Scottish Societies in London for entertaining serving men passing through London, and as Railway Transport officers in all London stations are in regular communication with "Caledonia," problems arising out of the men's journeys are speedily solved.

The house is easily recognised. Two Scottish flags flying from the balcony and a large banner bearing the word "Caledonia" catch the eye. The house is most comfortably furnished and games and papers provided. Good meals can be obtained and Scottish ladies see that their compatriots get a cordial welcome.

"Caledonia" is not a hostel, or a canteen, or a club ;

it is the Scottish home in London. It is supported entirely by voluntary contributions from the London Scottish community, whose sole aim is to do all they possibly can for their countrymen in the Navy, Army and Air Force.

With the active personal interest of the Duchess of Gloucester, success is assured.



Photo:]

[Bippa.

H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.
Air-Commandant, Women's Auxiliary Air Force.

Magnificent examples of gallantry are being shown day and night by men and women serving in the ranks of Britain's Civil Defence army, and were recently recounted in the *London Gazette*, when further awards of George Medals were announced. Amongst the recipients, we are pleased to note doctors and nurses.

We congratulate most warmly:—

Dr. André Bathfield, Resident M.O., Royal Chest Hospital, London ; Miss Catherine McGovern, S.R.N., Assistant Matron ; and Miss Patricia Marmion, S.R.N., Staff Nurse.

A bomb largely demolished the in-patient block of the hospital, covering the patients and staff with debris. Blast had filled every part of the building with thick dust so that it was difficult to breathe. Dr. Bathfield, although badly cut, did not leave the hospital for the treatment of his own wounds until every injured person had been treated and removed.

Miss McGovern, who was acting for the Matron, was also badly cut and injured by falling debris, but she refused to leave and continued to help in the removal of injured patients and staff. Finally, she went through the ruins supported by a police constable to ensure that there was no possi-

bility of anybody being left behind.

Staff Nurse Patricia Marmion, who was in charge of the men's ward, which was within 20 ft. of where the heavy bomb struck the hospital, immediately took steps to pacify her patients. She led to safety a man who tried to throw himself out of a window, rescued another injured patient, and though herself bleeding profusely,

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