

## NURSING ECHOES.

**"A DEMAND FOR JUSTICE FOR THE STATE REGISTERED NURSE."**

A pamphlet, "A Demand for Justice for the State Registered Nurse," a reply to the proposed de-grading of the Nursing Profession, by the Royal College of Nursing, can now be obtained from the British College of Nurses, Ltd., 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7. Price 1s. The pamphlet should be studied and filed for reference by every one interested in the efficient care of the sick and in a high standard of national health.

The King recently held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace, at which the group of nurses in the attractive uniform of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service attracted the admiration of officials and guests. His Majesty, in decorating recipients with the Royal Red Cross, appeared specially gracious to those whose skilled services in military hospitals and to the sick and wounded he no doubt realised to be of special value to the nation.

Acting-Matron Effie Townend received the Royal Red Cross for her distinguished services to evacuated British wounded from Tobruk in a hospital ship; she has helped to care for hundreds of wounded British soldiers in the Mediterranean, and run many risks with her patients in so doing.

We note Military Sisters are wearing a new cap of grey cloth with peak and badge—and very becoming it is.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of 81 nurses to be Queen's Nurses—55 in England, six in Wales, 15 in Scotland, and five in Ireland. We are pleased to note that well-qualified nurses are coming forward to staff this invaluable work.

Our Australian cousins are a thoroughly practical people—and the nurses, we know, full of energy and common-sense. Thus we are not surprised to learn from *Una*, the Journal of the Royal Victorian College of Nursing, that they are Calling All Nurses to help one another by establishing a trust fund for the future benefit of nurses on service with the three Forces in this

conflict. The Lord Mayor of Melbourne has consented to act as Chairman of the committee of influential citizens, together with the representatives of various branches of the nursing profession. It is hoped, with a special effort, to swell the fund to £15,000 by a special effort, including a Button Day, and we feel sure that "The Florence Nightingale Trust Fund for Victorian War Nurses" will meet with equal success, as when the Edith Cavell Trust Fund was established during the Great War, it amounted to £27,000, and we know that the value of this Trust has been proved over and over again, and actuarial calculations prove that this capital will last until the last Victorian nurse of the 1914-18 war has passed on.

"Not in the heyday of youth, health and strength is benefit from this fund required," says *Una*, "but when the clanging bells of Time take the toll of energy and emotion which our courageous nurses give so willingly in the many theatres of service in this hellish war. It is essential to safeguard the calls for the future well-being of those women suffering ill health not caused immediately and directly by war but to which the exigencies of war contributed definitely; to tide over difficult and acute periods of want; to furnish a sorely-needed holiday to prevent a breakdown in mental or physical health; to prevent calamity and allay anxiety; to establish a measure of security. It cannot be foreseen in the present what may be required in the future, there is no divining rod to tell who may call for help."

There must be no hesitation in the decision to give, and give generously. What

more attractive way to show a sympathetic people that nurses are always ready to help their confreres?

We have no doubt that the appeal will meet with all the success it deserves.

Members of the South African Military Nursing Service have been informed by their matron-in-chief, Miss C. A. Nothard, that when in outdoor uniform they must "pay the compliment of military salute and return it," as they have military rank ranging from Colonel—the matron-in-chief, to Cadet officer—junior probationers; staff nurses have the rank of lieutenant.



Photo : ]

[Evening Standard.

**ACTING MATRON EFFIE TOWNEND, R.R.C.**  
Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service,  
decorated by the King with the Royal Red Cross,  
First Class.

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