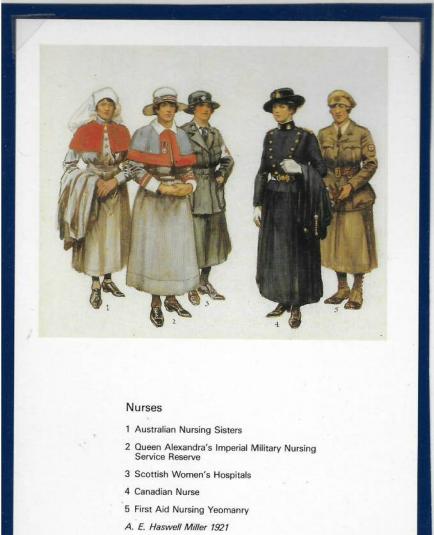
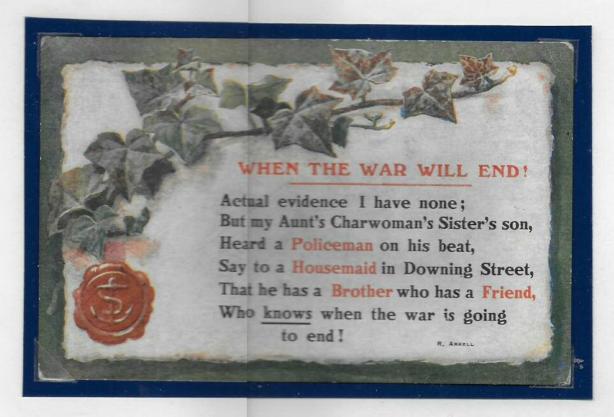
MILITARY NURSING SERVICES







MILITARY MEDALS FOR WOMEN



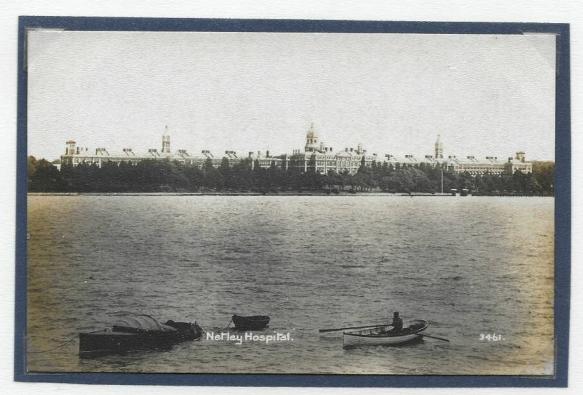
 Λ group of plucky women motor-drivers who received the M.M. from General Phones.







War with all its horrors had two redeeming features: it produced many new treatments and drugs and also a new breed of nurses who were prepared to respond to the call of their country in its time of direct need.





In 1914 The Territorial Force Nursing Service was mobilised. Many of those recruited assisted in the 25 territorial hospitals and hundreds of auxiliary units throughout the British Isles; but they were also employed in 18 territorial hospitals abroad and alongside Queen Alexandria's Imperial Nursing Service in France, Belgium, Malta, Salonica, Gibraltar, Egypt, Mesopotamia and East Africa.



In 1915 a third of the nurses serving abroad were VADs, that is, they were serving in Voluntary Aid Detachments in field hospitals, ships and ambulances. They also formed Rest Stations along the lines of communication and ministered to servicemen and civilians alike. These rest stations had a vital purpose in that they allowed the ambulance trains - on their way to the large base hospitals - to stop so that the dressings on the severely wounded could be checked and attended to if necessary.









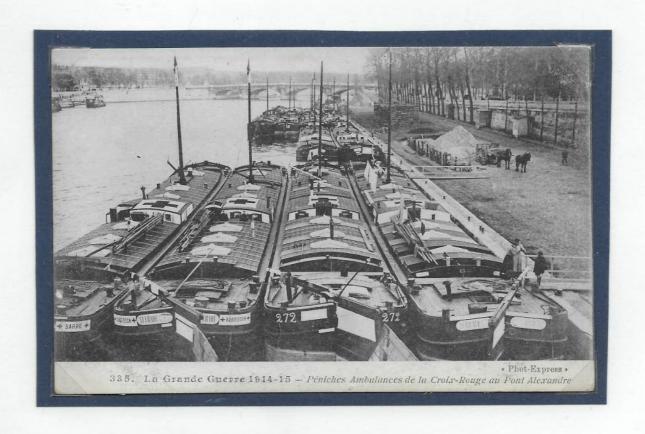
VADs in the Auxiliary Hospitals on the Home Front only treated convalescent men.



First World War casualties were moved from the Casualty Clearing Station to a Base Hospital by specially-fitted ambulance train or in some circumstances by barge along a canal.

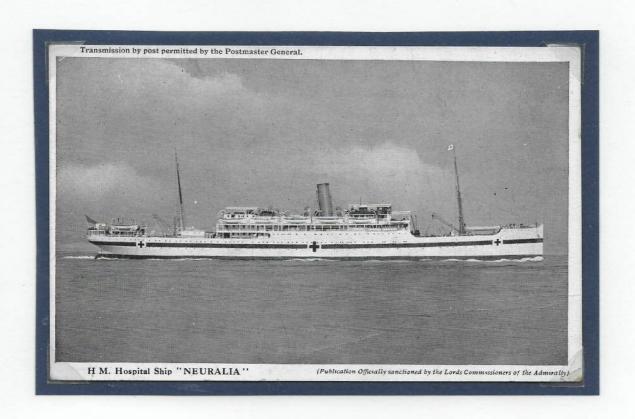


The Caledonian Railway Ambulance Train used on the Western Front.



Red Cross Barges in service in France, 1914-15

The British hospital ships of World War I were mostly converted passenger liners. Examples of these are the RMS Aquitania and His Majesty's Hospital Ship (HMHS) Britannic. Members of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (QAIMNS) served aboard them on the wards. Others included HMHS Abessieh, HMHS Anglia, HMHS Devanha, HMHS Gloucester Castle, HMHS Somersetshire, HMHS Salta, HMHS Galeka, HMHS Caledonia and HMHS Neuralia.



HMHS Neuralia

Transmission by post permitted by the Postmaster General

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After the war there was a lengthy process of discharging patients, closing territorial hospitals and demobilising the nursing staff. Many returned to their civilian posts as nurses and midwives.

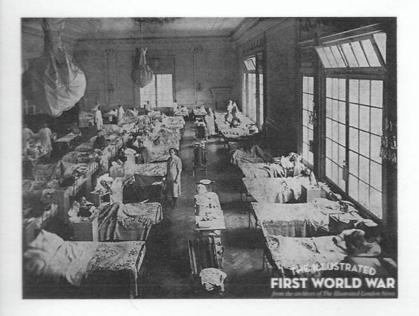




The ideal of nursing: 'to dress the wounds and wipe the tears away.'

Constance Edwina Lewis, CBE, Duchess of Westminster

(formerly Grosvenor, née Cornwallis-West; 16 May 1875 - 21 January 1970)



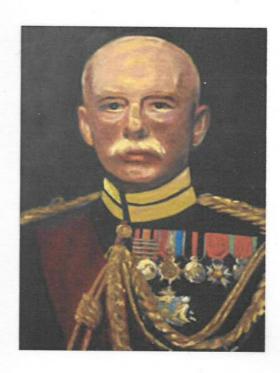
Duchess of Westminster's hospital at Le Touquet, 1914





In 1918, the Duchess was created a Commander of the Order of the British Empire for her service in the war. The couple were divorced the following year, and the alimony settlement of £13,000 a year he made upon her was then the largest in British legal history. On 14 January 1920, aged 44, the former Duchess of Westminster secretly married her private secretary and agent, Captain John Fitzpatrick Lewis, then in his thirties, at Lyndhurst, Hampshire. She had met Lewis early in the war, while he was being treated at her hospital in Le Touquet. They had no children. The former duchess died aged 94.

Lieutenant General Sir Alfred Henry Keogh, GCB, GCVO, CH (3 July 1857 - 30 July 1936)



Rector of Imperial College, London, 1910 - 1922

Oil on canvas. Half length, full military dress uniform with decorations.

GCB Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath

GCVO Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order

CH Order of the Companions of Honour

CB Companion of the Order of the Bath

KStJ Knight of Grace of the Venerable Order of St John

KHP Honorary Physician to the King

Belgium Grand Cross of the Order of the Crown

France Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour

Serbia Order of the White Eagle 2nd Class

Artist: Arthur Hacker RA; Copy 1954-1955, formerly hung in Keogh Hall of Residence, Imperial College, London.

The original is in the RAMC HQ Mess, Millbank, London.



Army Post Office S 15 posted on 1 December 1915. Passed by Censor 966

On 2 March 1880, Keogh was commissioned into the Army Medical Services as a surgeon-captain. His first posting was as a surgeon to the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. On 6 March 1892, he was promoted to surgeon-major. With the outbreak of the Second Boer War in 1899, he was posted to South Africa, being promoted to lieutenant colonel on 6 March 1900, he became commander of No. 3 General Hospital near Cape Town. During the war, he served in Cape Colony, the Orange Free State, and the Transvaal Republic. In January 1902, following his return from the Second Boer War, he was appointed Deputy Director General of the Army Medical Services. He was promoted to colonel on 2 December 1904. On 1 January 1905, he was appointed Director General Army Medical Services (DGAMS) and promoted to lieutenant-general. He retired from the military on 6 March 1910. With the outbreak of the First World War, he was reappointed DGAMS on 3 October 1914. He supervised the huge expansion of the Army's medical services to cope with the war, and was in command of the medical services in the UK. He left the appointment and the military in June 1918. He died at 10 Warwick Square, London, on 30 July 1936. A requiem mass was held at Westminster Cathedral. Sir Alfred Keogh was buried in Marylebone Cemetery, Finchley.

Ernest Miller Hemingway (July 21, 1899 - July 2, 1961)



The photograph shows him working on his book For Whom the Bell Tolls at the Sun Valley Lodge, Idaho, in December 1939.

Early in 1918, after applying to serve with, and being turned down by, the US Army, Navy and Marines because of poor eyesight, Hemingway responded to a Red Cross recruitment effort in Kansas City and signed on to become an ambulance driver in Italy. He left New York in May and arrived in Paris as the city was under bombardment from German artillery. By June, he was driving ambulances at the Italian Front.

On his first day in Milan, he was sent to the scene of a munitions factory explosion, where rescuers retrieved the shredded remains of female workers. He described the incident in his non-fiction book Death in the Afternoon: "I remember that after we searched quite thoroughly for the complete dead we collected fragments." A few days later, he was stationed at Fossalta di Piave. On July 8, 1918 he was seriously wounded by mortar fire, having just returned from the canteen bringing chocolate and cigarettes for the men at the front line. Despite his wounds, Hemingway assisted Italian soldiers to safety, for which he received the Italian Silver Medal of Bravery. He was still only 18 at the time.











Hemingway later said of the incident: "When you go to war as a boy you have a great illusion of immortality. Other people get killed; not you ... Then when you are badly wounded the first time you lose that illusion and you know it can happen to you." He sustained severe shrapnel wounds to both legs, underwent an immediate operation at a distribution center, and spent five days at a field hospital before he was transferred for six months recuperation to the Red Cross hospital in Milan.

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD

(November 30, 1872 - January 28, 1918)







In Flanders' Fields In Flanders' fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below. We are the dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved, and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders' fields. Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch, be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders' fields. Major John McCrae, 1915

At the beginning of World War I (1914), McCrae was appointed as Medical Officer and Major of the 1st Brigade CFA (Canadian Field Artillery). He treated the wounded during the Second Battle of Ypres in 1915, from a hastily dug, 8 foot by 8 foot bunker dug in the back of the dyke along the Yser Canal about 2 miles north of Ypres. McCrae's friend and former militia pal, Lt. Alexis Helmer, was killed in the battle, and his burial inspired the poem, "In Flanders Fields", which was written on May 3, 1915. From June 1, 1915, McCrae was ordered away from the artillery to set up No. 3 Canadian General Hospital at Dannes-Camiers near Boulognesur-Mer, northern France. "In Flanders Fields" appeared anonymously in Punch on December 8, 1915, but in the index to that year McCrae was named as the author. The verses swiftly became one of the most popular poems of the war used in countless fund-raising campaigns and frequently translated. "In Flanders Fields" was also extensively printed in the United States, whose government was contemplating joining the war, alongside a 'reply' by R. W. Lillard, ("...Fear not that you have died for naught, / The torch ye threw to us we caught..."). For eight months the hospital operated in Durbar tents (donated by the Begum of Bhopal and shipped from India), but after suffering from storms, floods, and frosts it was moved in February 1916 into the old Jesuit College in Boulogne-sur-Mer. On January 28, 1918, while still commanding No. 3 Canadian General Hospital (McGill) at Boulogne, McCrae died of pneumonia with "extensive pneumococcus meningitis". He was buried the following day in Wimereux Cemetery, just a couple of kilometres up the coast from Boulogne, with full military honours. McCrae's gravestone is placed flat, as are all the others in the section, because of the unstable sandy soil.



WAR ORGANISATION OF THE BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY AND ORDER OF STJOHN OF JERUSALEM

Presented to

in recognition of devoted service to the cause of humanity during the second world war 1939~1945

Sovereign Head, Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

President. British Red Cross Society.



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ATTENDED AN ELEMENTARY HAS COURSE OF INSTRUCTION IN FIRST AID AND HAS SATISFIED THE COUNCIL'S EXAMINER IN BOTH THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL WORK AT AN EXAMINATION HELD ON

27th March, 1939.

CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(0.19272)



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Sheet 31



In 1914, Queen Alexandra made the following appeal in the press for funds: 'Much money will be needed and many gifts if we are faithfully to discharge our trust and be able to say, when it is over, that we have done all we could for the comfort and relief of our sick and wounded.





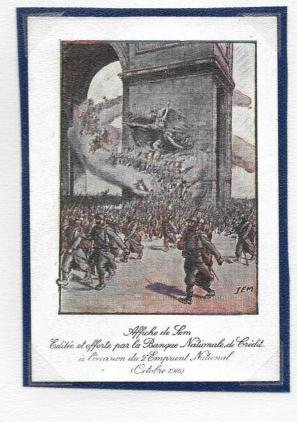


















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