

over and the fighting done. They accepted it as a matter of course,—they didn't expect luxury in the greatest war that was ever fought. I have been stationed at three different posts,—all large posts, and have had five different commanding officers, all belonging to the Regular Army, and that surely gives one an opportunity to judge of *conditions in general*. At my first post, U. S. A. General Hospital No. 1, New York, the Commanding Officer was a Regular Army man of twenty-one years' experience, and he was most considerate of the Nurse Corps. For eleven months I was Chief Nurse at Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., a fifteen-hundred bed hospital, with approximately one hundred nurses. I went to this post when the Officers' Training Camp was still in operation, and in addition to our regular hospital staff of officers there were hundreds of line men and several thousand student officers. I shall not soon forget the kindness that was shown me by the Commanding Officer, a Regular Army man of ten years' experience. Support the nurses? Why, he was behind them at all times; depended on them and did everything possible for their comfort and convenience. The nurses were assigned to Officers' Quarters and nothing on the post was too good for the Army Nurse Corps. After he left, another Regular Army man of seventeen years' experience commanded, and he also backed the nurses to the limit. When that hospital decreased in number, I was transferred to Debarkation Hospital No. 51. There is no question as to the status of the Army Nurse by any officer or enlisted man in this hospital. Here, also, we have had no great difficulty in our relations to the corps men and only in a very few instances have we had any trouble at all. It was only recently that one little difficulty did arise. A nurse on night duty requested the corps man to leave the ward and stay in the corridor, as he was irritating a patient. This the corps man refused to do and the matter was reported to the Officer of the Day, who put it in his report, which went to the Commanding Officer. I received word the next morning from the Adjutant to the effect that the nurse was absolutely in the right, that she was within her province and that the corps man was being removed from the ward that very day. Does this look like the complaints that have been heard from some of the nurses who served during the war? There will always be a certain per cent. of nurses who will not find conditions to their liking anywhere, and a good many nurses came into the service for the emergency with their own idea as to how the Army Nurse Corps should be run, but now that the war is over and they are again back in civil life, why all this tumult? If the members constituting the Army Nurse Corps at present are dissatisfied, they are the ones to complain,—not the outsiders, yet we hear very little complaint from them. Would the Army Nurses reënlist after three years' service if conditions are such as have been described? I refuse to believe that I am the only Chief Nurse in the Army who has had a square deal.

Virginia

R. G. C.

VOTING BY MAIL

Dear Editor: Since my letter in the February JOURNAL, I have received an inquiry asking whether I personally approve of voting by mail. I said that each organization must decide for itself whether the objections outweigh the advantages or not. My own judgment is that the objections do decidedly outweigh the advantages.

EMMA A. FOX.