

the same way as soldiers and their dependents. The only difference is that contained in the phrase: "on the recommendation of the Minister" for the recommendation of the Minister of Defence is necessary before the Pensions Board may consider applications of nurses or their dependents for pensions. There is no schedule of the Act fixing maximum rates of pensions for nurses, but provision is made for the fixing of the rates by regulation. No such regulation, has however, yet been made. The Defence Minister says he would most certainly recommend the Pensions Board to consider any applications from dependents of any of the nurses drowned. He thought it probable that in the meantime, pending the hearing of these applications, any allotments of pay to dependents made by those nurses who have lost their lives would be continued.

A very impressive service was held on November 9th, in St. Michael's Church, Christchurch, in memory of the New Zealand nurses who have recently lost their lives while on active service. His Lordship the Bishop of Christchurch, addressed the large congregation which included 200 nurses in uniform.

It was fitting that this service should be held in the Cathedral City of the South

Island, seeing that almost all the nurses whose loss we mourn belonged to that island.

—  
"TAKE THE FIGHTING MEN FIRST!"

HEROIC NURSES' SPLENDID SACRIFICE.

(Rec. November 12, 1.15 a.m.).

LONDON, November 11.

The "Morning Post," on the authority of the captain of a French cruiser, narrates an incident which is 'worthy to live in the history of our Empire,' as illustrating the capable part our women are playing. It was when the cruiser recently was assisting in saving life after an unnamed transport had been torpedoed in the Aegean Sea.

There were thirty-six nursing sisters on board, of whom ten were drowned. When the French boats arrived the nurses with one accord, called out: "Take the fighting men on first!"

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(Rec. November 12, 1.15 a.m.).

LONDON, November 11.

The newspapers give prominence to a casualty list containing the names of ten New Zealand Staff nurses who are reported missing. It is believed that they were drowned in the transport *Marquette*.

—"Dominion."

## Smallpox Vaccine

(Air: *The Rosary*.)

The scratches on my arm, dear sir,  
Like burning coals of fire, they seem.  
How many microbes did you there inter?  
Small pox vaccine! Small pox vaccine!  
Each, prick a scratch; each, scratch an itch  
To add to sea-sick maiden's woe,  
I ask each friend if hers has took,  
But each one answers: "No."  
Oh, little bugs that course and run!  
Oh, itchy skin! Oh, swollen scar!  
I rub each scratch and strive in vain to  
think

The stuff has took, dear sir:  
The stuff has took!

—By a Nurse in Isolation (E.W.)

—  
These original verses were made up for the weekly concerts on the Hospital Ship "Maheno." They are the concoctions of the nurses' brains, and all relate to doings on the ship. They made great fun as you can guess. We drawled out the vaccine one in the most doleful way. (Extract from nurse's letter).