

MEDALS FOR  
BRAVE WOMEN  
WAR MAKES GREAT INCREASE  
IN DECORATIONS.

Military Medal Conferred Upon  
Nurses and Other Women as  
Well As On Soldiers.

The war has brought about a great  
increase in the number of British  
medals, crosses, and other  
decorations, which may  
conveniently be won by women.

The new Military Medal, for  
example, originally instituted for  
commissioned officers and men as a  
reward for distinguished  
bravery in battle, is now conferred upon  
nurses and other women who have  
shown conspicuous courage and coolness un-

der fire.

Then there is the Royal Red Cross,  
aptly termed the "Women's V.C." It  
may now be bestowed upon all women  
irrespective of rank or social

status, who have shown  
courage and competency either at the

hospitals at home or abroad. They  
need not be members of recognized  
nursing services, or even British sub-

Another women's order that is  
highly regarded, although not entirely con-  
fined to nurses, or those interested in  
nursing, is the Order of St. John.  
This decoration takes the form of a  
small Maltese cross, enamelled white,  
and bearing the words, "For Service  
in the Cause of Humanity." The  
Chapter of the Order also awards  
circular medallions in silver and  
bronze to nurses who have  
distinguished themselves.

Exclusive Decorations.

Then there is the Imperial Service  
Order, founded by the late King Ed-  
ward, for bestowal upon women of  
any rank in life as a reward for very  
conspicuous bravery. This is highly  
valued, being very sparingly awarded.

The Order of Merit is also open to  
women, but up till now only one, the  
late Florence Nightingale, has been  
deemed worthy to be included in it.

Two most exclusive decorations,  
both confined to women, are the  
Royal Order of Victoria and Albert  
and the Imperial Order of the Crown  
of India. Both Queen Alexandra and  
Queen Mary are members of the  
Order of the Garter, but up till now  
there is no modern instance of a woman  
being similarly honored.

As regards British life-saving de-

corations, the coveted Albert Medal

has been won by women, while one

woman, Miss Kate Gilmore, has been

the recipient of the rarely granted,  
Lloyd's Medal for Saving Life at Sea.

The Royal Humane Society's Medal,  
too, has been frequently gained by  
women, as have also those of the  
Royal National Lifesaving Institution  
and the Royal Society for the Pro-  
tection of Life from Fire.

Many British women have won for-  
eign decorations during the present  
war. Only a few weeks ago, for  
instance, the Countess Helena Gleichen  
returned from Italy, where she has  
been with her ambulance, wearing  
the Soldier's Silver Medal, which had  
been personally bestowed upon her  
by King Victor Emmanuel in recog-  
nition of "bravery under fire." The  
Belgian Bronze Cross and the French  
Cross of the Légion of Honor have  
also been won by several of our  
countrywomen since the war broke  
out.

Another case that stands out pro-  
minently is that of the late Mrs.

Harley, a sister of Lord French, upon  
whom General Sarraut bestowed the  
ordre de Guerre.

SOME BLESSINGS OF WAR.

Optimistic Britisher Looks on the  
Bright Side of Things.

That "nation decay" has set in for  
many years before the war, he says a Londoner.  
Nationally, our teeth, or our hair, are  
going." We were becoming a  
pitless, baldheaded, be-spectacled  
breath-peace.

Five years of war will not bring the greater masti-  
cation that its ingredients, and its  
maleness requires, save the teeth of  
thousands of the younger generation.

Our eyesight, as opticians have  
already noticed, is much better. The  
bright strain of work, added to the  
bright street lighting, ruined the eyes  
of thousands. Now, the dark-  
ened streets and the shaded lighting  
doors, bed down wonders for the eyes.

Altogether, London boasts 18 genu-  
ine farms, nine of them in Woolwich  
and in pre-war times had nearly 300  
acres devoted to wheat-growing.

It is urged in Great Britain that  
absolute prohibition would free a  
minimum of 800,000 tons a year in  
ships for the oversea transportation of

food.

There are those, too, who say  
lack of potatoes is a blessing.  
Fancy goods are bad for children,  
but not good for adults!

More than 90 per cent. of the alcohol  
and alcoholic drinks that are made in  
the Philippines are derived from the  
palms.

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