

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

CROIX DE GUERRE FOR SISTER JAFFRAY.

We have great pleasure in announcing that Sister Madeleine Jaffray, of the first Canadian Unit, registered in the State of New York, has been decorated by a French General with the Croix de Guerre, having been wounded under fire. This is a very great honour which we are informed is well deserved. Miss Violetta Thurstan, Matron of the Hôpital de l'Océan, La Panne, writes: "I have just been to see your wounded French Flag Nurse, Miss Jaffray, as we are quite near neighbours, as I was sure you would like to hear how she is getting on. I am glad to say she is as well as can be expected and is suffering a good deal less to-day.

"The French General was just going away when I arrived. He had been to give her the Croix de Guerre. You will guess how pleased she was to receive it. I am so glad she has received this honour. I think they all behaved splendidly during a very trying time. Well done French Flag Nursing Corps!"

The Sisters who are very near the firing line, are honourably pledged to the French Government to give no information, so we welcome Miss Thurstan's sisterly kindness in visiting them and sending a few details and we heartily congratulate all the Sisters at this Ambulance on their escape from injury, and Sister Jaffray that her life was spared.

A Sister on night duty in the war zone writes: "We quite like night work, and so far have had beautiful fine weather, which makes a lot of difference when trotting from ward to ward. There is always an interesting firework display to be seen all night along the front. There has been a heavy bombardment all afternoon, so I expect as soon as it is dark we shall be getting the cases in and be very busy. . . . Everything is so beautifully green now. Our huts are planted in a clover field, which is just beginning to flower and will soon be lovely." Imagine the scene. Brave little British nurses in a foreign land, going their rounds of mercy hour after hour, "beyond the world's most purple rim," the flashes of devastating flames which result in so great suffering which it is their duty and their pleasure to soothe—and all about them a carpet of clover. When these young women are quite old they will still hear those guns and see those shafts of light. They will feel the *tremblement de terre*, and the scent of the clover, honey sweet, will flit by them when the wind stirs on summer nights. Thus intensity of life enriches memory!

Sister Jaffray was one of these night nurses.

At one busy centre where Sisters have been working for upwards of two years, they have been continually bombarded since March. We are glad to hear they are moving to a village near, where this nerve strain may be less.

The Médecins Chefs are often anxious when an

Ambulance is moved to take the Sisters with them. This has been arranged on several occasions, and naturally gratifies the Sisters whose work is thus appreciated.

In this connection Sisters should *at once* forward their new postal address to the Paris office, and to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Supt., 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1, as all emoluments now pass through her hands and are sent direct from London.

An Irish Jubilee Sister, writing from the War Zone, says: "Our Médecin Chef is a very charitable and very devout French Catholic, and is constantly asked for by the poor of the place around. Nothing is too great a sacrifice to make for these poor people. He asks us to look after many helpless cases of old men and old women left quite alone, so that, in addition to our hospital, we have our old and very dear work—the *district*. I feel these days, when work is slack, that I am my very old self—the *Jubilee Nurse*. The poor know it well, and they send many times a week, asking for one of the '*bonnes dames Anglaises*' to put right any situation which seems beyond them, poor things."

We learn that when General ——— passed Neufchateau recently, he insisted upon seeing Sister Sutton of Rébéval Hospital and paid her a great compliment. In fact, whenever a *personnage* visits the hospital the Médecin Chef speaks very highly of the services of the F.F.N.C. Sisters. The Princess d'Hernin continues, as ever, to be most kind and charming to them.

CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

An annexe to Queen Alexandra's Hospital for Officers at Highgate, at 25, Portland Place, was formally opened on Thursday, June 7th, by Sir Alfred Keogh, Director General A.M.S.

The house, a fine example of the Adam period, was altered and equipped and will be maintained by the generosity of Mr. S. J. Waring.

At present it contains twelve beds, which will be occupied by medical patients and post-operation cases from Highgate.

The wards are extremely bright and cheerful and are furnished most charmingly.

The toilet service, rugs and quilts harmonised in gay flowery patterns. A shaded electric lamp stood on each locker. The Adam ceilings will be a joy to the invalids; they are very fine, and in one room they are beautifully frescoed.

The officers have a fine dining room, and the greenhouse has been converted into a delightful rest room with awnings over the glass roof.

The domestic duties are in the hands of the V.A.D.s. The basement contains spacious accommodation, and there is storage which would delight the heart of any matron.

The sister-in-charge is Miss Gates, who was trained at St. George's Hospital, and who was before taking up her present appointment theatre sister at Highgate.

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