## TEAPOT MADE OF "GLAXO" TINS.

By an Englishman interned in Austria, who says:

"During 4½ years' internment at the Internment Colony, Raabs-on-the-Thaya, Lower Austria—a colony composed of civilians of British, French, Italian, Russian and Serbian nationalities—my friend and I fitted up a workshop and made all sorts of useful oddments for fellow country people and ourselves.



"The enclosed tea-pot was made from a Glaxo tin. I made three such pots, all of which have been brought home as mementoes. The Glaxo was sent out to the British Colony, amongst other comforts; and besides being used for the feeding of children and as a milk substitute for the entire colony, it was largely used by many of my personal friends, as a remedy for insomnia and nervous debility from which, I regret to say, many of them suffered."

## "PIPS" FOR AUSTRALIAN MASSEUSES.

Since the Austra'ian Army Nurse was given the privilege of wearing an officer's badge of rank the woman members of the Army Massage Corps have been agitating for similar recognition. Masseuses attached to A.I.F. massage establishments abroad have all along been wearing on the shoulder straps of their walking-out uniforms the little star or "pip" which is the badge of rank of the staff nurse as well as the gay young subaltern. For some obscure reason, however, masseuses in Australia have not been granted the same privilege, although as far as pay and allowances are concerned, they are on exactly the same level as Army Staff Nurses. But it now seems likely that the anomaly will very shortly be rectified. General Cuscaden, Acting Director of Australian Medical Services, is considering the question of placing the masseuses on the same footing as Army Nurses as far as the wearing of badges of rank is concerned. He appears to view the claims of the masseuses sympathetically, and it is probable that he will recommend that they be allowed to wear a single star on their uniforms if they desire to do so.

## FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

## THE SWEET SCENTED FLOWER OF TRAINED NURSES.

As the ambulances to which they were attached are demobilised the units of F.F.N.C. Sisters are returning home—a goodly number after upwards of four years' arduous work. Some day, when we have time, we hope to write a little history of the work of this Corps, which was started under such difficult conditions, which aroused apparently so much jealousy and opposition from inner nursing circles in the War Office, and which other bureaucrats did their utmost to "snuff out." But the "real thing" always tells and in spite of the intolerable insularity of our various bureaucrats (male and female) the French Flag Nursing Corps has come out on top every time. The reason is not far to seek. The women who offered their services to care for the sick and wounded of the French Army in their own military hospitals, did so knowing that there would be no "sitting on velvet" in their surroundings. But the compensation for so many discomforts, insanitary conditions, cold, and food shortage, was the realisation of the value to the sick of every effort made, of every discomfort suffered, and as time went on, the great appreciation by sympathetic surgeons and doctors of skilled nursing as practised by the British Sisters and the spontaneous and warm gratitude of the patients.

As the Sisters arrive home it is amply apparent that the majority need a long and comfortable rest, and that now the strain is at an end, they realise for the first time what a strain the work has

been.

Some of the Sisters, however, are eager to return to France as there is so much social service required in the devastated districts, for refugees, orphan children, and those who have suffered loss of homes and worse still, of nearest and dearest. Sisters Sutton and Perkins will work with Mile. Desgarets. Sister Wood has also returned to France; Sisters Bennett and Banks, after a rest, are to help an American centre; Sister Richard is to help in a poor district in Paris; Sister Pope has gone to the C.R.F. Tuberculosis Hospital at Palavas. The whole Lisieux Unit has been requisitioned by the head of the Service de Santé in the Rouen region for work at Le Tréport, who says "We cannot let our English Sisters go," and some of the Sisters are on duty in Germany. All the same, the work of the Corps as a military service is drawing to a close after four and a half years' work, and one and all regret leaving France, where, in spite of many hardships, they have been so happy, because they have been so useful, and where so many friends regret their departure.

Ît is greatly to be hoped that the seeds have been widely sown in many centres of the Sweet Scented Flower of Skilled Nursing, and that many young women in France will dedicate themselves to its culture. previous page next page