

NURSES OF NOTE.

Miss Elizabeth L. Smellie, R.N., R.R.C.

Chief Superintendent, Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada.

Amongst the nurses of note whom the British Empire is proud to claim is Miss Elizabeth L. Smellie, Chief Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada. Miss Smellie was born at Port Arthur, Ontario, and graduated at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, U.S.A.

After a year's institutional work, and four years of private nursing, Miss Smellie proceeded overseas in January, 1915, as a Nursing Sister attached to the Nursing Service in connection with the Canadian Army Medical Corps. She served as a Nursing Sister in England and France, and later as Matron of the Moore Barracks Hospital, Shorncliffe. She was mentioned in despatches, and received the Order of the Royal Red Cross, first class, for her War Services. She returned to Canada on transport duty, and served for two years as Assistant to the Matron-in-Chief of the Canadian Army Nursing Service.

Miss Smellie took the Public Health Nursing Course at Simmons College, and subsequently served as Field Supervisor of students and Assistant to the Acting Director.

She was appointed Chief Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada in January, 1924.

In connection with this appointment *The Public Health Nurse* made the following comment:—

"It is interesting to note that the Order has promoted one of its own nurses, especially one of such outstanding ability, and with the strong support of her own nursing associates. Miss Smellie was a Field Supervisor of the Order in Montreal, and also an Instructor in Public Health Nursing in McGill University."

The Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada of which Miss Smellie is Chief Superintendent was founded in 1897 as a memorial of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and possesses a Royal Charter. Its object is "to supply nurses thoroughly trained in Hospital and Public Health Nursing, and subject to one Central Authority, for the nursing of the sick, the prevention of disease, and the promotion of health." As a part of its programme for pioneer relief, twenty-five hospitals were installed, equipped, and administered until self-supporting, in the outlying districts of Canada, from Northern British Columbia, across the prairies, and in Northern Ontario and Quebec to the Canadian Labrador.

The Chief Superintendents who have directed it since its inception have been Miss Charlotte McLeod, Miss Margaret Allen, Miss Mary Ard Mackenzie, B.A., Mrs. J. Charlotte Hannington, and now Miss Smellie.

As in this country connection with Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, so with the Victorian Order in Canada, training centres were established within the Order itself to enable graduate nurses to obtain the necessary post-graduate course in district nursing, and this special course was continuous until 1921, when, with the establish-

ment of post graduate courses in Public Health Nursing in various Canadian Universities, the Order determined to avail itself of the training offered in Public Health Nursing at the Universities of British Columbia, Western Ontario, Toronto, McGill, and Dalhousie, and scholarships have been granted to enable graduate nurses to avail themselves of these courses, with the understanding that they give one year's service to the Order upon successful completion of such a course. As we have mentioned above, Miss Smellie took the Post Graduate Course at McGill University.

The services of the Order are available for all. Those in greatest need receive first attention. It also meets the requirements of people in moderate circumstances who can pay the full cost or even part of the cost of a nursing visit, as well as the need of those situated so that it is inconvenient or unnecessary to employ a full time nurse in the home.

The nurses everywhere have unusual opportunities of promoting the social as well as the physical welfare of their patients, and of noting and reporting such conditions as bad housing and the non-observance of child labour and school attendance laws, all tending to lower standards of home and community life.

The Order also gives instruction to expectant mothers, with follow-up visits to mother and baby in the home; in community centres, the nurse organises Mothers' Conferences and Well Baby Clinics as well as classes in Mothercraft and Home Nursing for the younger girls.

The Order is operating in sixty-six branches, and has two hundred and eighty-seven graduate nurses on duty from the Atlantic to the Pacific, all especially qualified to carry on generalised Public Health Nursing. It will thus be realised that it is a beneficent agency for raising the standard of the national health, and affords to nurses of enterprise and resource a most useful and satisfying career.



MISS ELIZABETH L. SMELLIE, R.N.
Chief Superintendent Victorian Order
of Nurses for Canada.

A CAMP FOR NURSES.

The annual "Camp" is being arranged by the Nurses' Missionary League, to be held at Sandsend, near Whitby, from June 12th to 26th.

Despite its name, the party will be housed in a substantial building, but it will have all the freedom associated with the word "Camp." There is good bathing, and ample opportunity for picnics, excursions and rambles in woods and over moors. All nurses, trained or in course of training, will be welcome, and should write for further particulars to Miss Macfee, 21, Frogna Lane, Hampstead, N.W.3.

Health visitors in this country will be interested to know the scale of salaries approved for Plunket Nurses in New Zealand. They are for Nurses holding General Hospital, Midwifery and Plunket certificates, £208 rising in seven years to £280. Nurses holding General Hospital and Plunket certificates, £208 rising to £240. Women holding Midwifery and Plunket certificates, £208 to £232. The increase in salary is not however automatic, efficiency, teaching ability, and attention to detail in the wearing of correct uniform when on duty, being taken into consideration.

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