

29th. A working party to supply garments and comforts for the troops will be held at the same address every Saturday at 2.30 p.m.

Nurses Near and Far, the organ of the Missionary Nurses' League, is a little magazine full of the records of the heroic, silent work of nurses in the mission field, and is a very living link between them. From China someone writes:—"For last year's Camp I wrote mentioning some special needs for prayer, and one in particular. That special need has, during the year that has passed, been beautifully granted, and has been such a great joy to me. Your time of intercession at Camp can and does mean so much for us who are in the midst of things."

THE COLONIAL NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The Colonial Nursing Association has of late years become a truly imperial organisation, and the Report just to hand proves that its beneficent work has stretched out and come in touch with the people in our farthest Dominions.

The more important developments which have taken place during the past year are as follows:—The appointment of a Nurse-Matron for the Prestea Hospital, Gold Coast; three Nurses for the Masina Hospital, Bombay; one Nurse for the Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong; two Nurses for the Leper Settlement in connection with the Basutoland Government Hospitals; two Nurses for a Maternity Home in Bloemfontein; and two Nurses for work in the Australian Bush under the Victorian Bush Nursing Association.

The Report continues:—

"Not only is this list quite up to the rate of annual increase in our activities which we have come to expect, but it includes some departures of rather unusual interest. For instance, the Victorian Bush Nursing Association is a courageous undertaking of recent growth, in which an Association such as ours must take a keen interest. For its object is to bring the blessing of skilled nursing into the homes of the scattered settlers in a new country, and its organisation has already accomplished what seemed impossible in some of the country districts of Victoria.

"We are exceedingly glad also to be able to be of service to so remarkable an Institution as Dr. Masina's Hospital at Bombay, which, thanks mainly to his unselfish labours and to the support of the Parsee community in that City, has grown from small beginnings into a fine hospital run on philanthropic lines for the sick of all nationalities. Dr. Masina already reports enthusiastically of the work of our three nurses, and asks for a Matron and two more nurses to be sent out shortly.

"The Nursing Staffs in various Colonies have also been increased. In this connection may be mentioned an additional Nurse for the Gambia, two additional Nurses for the Ceylon Government Hospitals, and extra Nurses for the branches in Mauritius and Selangor.

"Two C.N.A. Nurses on the Staffs of the Trinidad Hospital and of the Georgetown Public

Hospital, British Guiana, have been promoted to the Matronships of the San Fernando Hospital and Berbice Hospital respectively, and candidates were at once supplied to fill the vacancies thus caused.

"The Government of Western Australia has recently applied for 10 more Nurses for work in the Government Hospitals. This is a pleasant testimony to the value of the 10 Nurses supplied by the Association in 1912, and the new vacancies are already nearly all filled."

In addition to the above-mentioned developments, Matrons and Nurses have been selected to fill many vacancies caused by the termination of engagements. The quotations from letters are of a most gratifying character. The following from a Nurse's letter describes the Onoway Hospital, started only last summer under the auspices of the Edmonton Mission in the prairie country of Alberta: "Everyone is astonished when they come here to see what an up-to-date little hospital we have so far out in the wilds; one that you would be proud of even in London. There is one thing that strikes the homesteaders, it being so very white and clean inside, something so totally different to their own shacks, which as a rule are very rough log houses. . . . The homesteaders round us have welcomed us with open arms. . . . Our maternity cases have done well so far. One came a two days' journey in a waggon drawn by oxen. We have also a man who nearly cut his foot off with an axe. It took him ten hours to get to us, and he lost a great deal of blood. . . . We have saved his foot for him. . . . Before we had a doctor here, an old man came to me to have his hand opened, he had run something into it, and it was getting so painful that he could not hold the reins. I started to open his hand; his skin was as hard as horn. He suddenly winced, and I said to him, 'Am I hurting you?' He replied, 'Oh no, marm, but I guess that you have got to the meat.'"

Eleven Silver Badges for meritorious service of five years and upwards have been awarded during the year, bringing the list of Matrons and Nurses who have now received this distinction up to a total of 89. An asterisk marks the names of those in the Nurses' List who have earned this distinction.

We are pleased to note the professional nature of the Nursing Committee of the Scottish Branch of the Association, on which Miss Gill, Miss Melrose, Miss Gregory Smith, Miss Edmondson, Miss Burleigh, and Miss Cowper have seats, whose professional experience must be of the utmost value in the selection of the Nursing Staff for Colonial service.

Typhus is reported to have broken out among the Germans situated in the camps around Brussels and in the valley of the Dendre near Termonde. The disease is said to be causing fearful ravages, and already many Germans are reported to have succumbed. If true, here is work for nurses.

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