

Danish National Council of Nurses, and had an interesting journey to Christiania, although in Sweden the looks with which they were regarded were not friendly. At Christiania the party were met at the station by the Consul and his wife, the President of the Norwegian Red Cross Society, and a number of Sisters and other workers, who showed them the greatest kindness, and Miss Haswell on behalf of British nurses, and especially of the St. John Ambulance Association, thanked them for their courtesy and kindness. She also sent a telegram to Queen Maud, acknowledging Norway's splendid reception of the nurses, and at Bergen received a most kind reply from Her Majesty, wishing the party a good journey home, and expressing her regret at not having seen them.

On Saturday the nurses arrived at Newcastle-on-Tyne, from which place Miss Haswell, in their name, telegraphed to Queen Alexandra, notifying their splendid reception in Denmark and Norway, and to the British Minister at Copenhagen, the Hon. Secretary of the Danish National Council of Nurses, and Dr. Onsum, of the Norwegian Red Cross Society, notifying their safe arrival and expressing their thanks for kindnesses received. Queen Alexandra sent a gracious reply to Miss Haswell at the headquarters of the St. John Ambulance Association in acknowledgment of her telegram.

#### TO THE BRITISH SURGEONS AND NURSES PASSING COPENHAGEN ON THEIR WAY FROM BELGIUM.

Silent we bid you welcome, in silence you answered  
our greeting—

Because our lips must be closed and your teeth  
are set against the gale.

Our mouths are mute our minds are open—  
We shall greet you farewell in silence.

Sowers of good-will on fields where hate is sown,  
fare ye well!

—C. NORMAN-HANSEN, M.D.

Seventy of the large party of nurses sent out to Brussels under the authority of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in the middle of August, arrived at King's Cross from the north on Saturday afternoon. Miss Claridge, Mrs. Oliver, and other officials were present to greet them, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss Beatrice Cutler also met the train to welcome the international corps sent on the request of Dr. Marcelle, of Brussels. Miss Thurstan having gone to Petrograd from Copenhagen, Sister Haswell, of the R.N.S., was in charge of the whole party, and brought them all well and happy in triumph to London and this ended a very historic journey from the seat of war to be long remembered by those who took part in it. On Sunday the contingent of nurses were kindly invited to tea at the Charterhouse Hotel, and having on Monday reported themselves at St. John's Gate, have scattered to various districts, many eager for further active duty.

Miss Thurstan, Miss Wilkinson, and Mrs. Nicholson, accompanied by Miss Greg, have left Copenhagen for Petrograd.

## HOME FROM THE FRONT.

FROM ANTWERP.

Miss E. K. Ward, the Matron of the English Colony Hospital in Antwerp, who with Miss Freshfield refused to leave her Belgian patients, and with the help of "Scotty," the handy man of the hospital, carried them, under fire, to a lighter in the river, estimates very modestly the courage and devotion which called forth the admiration of the *Times* correspondent. "We only did," she says, "what any other nurse in the city would have done, only the correspondent happened to see and write about it. He doesn't say, either, though he mentioned he was frightened, that he came back twice to help us when he need not have done."

The seventeen patients were removed to the lighter just in time, as the tide was going out; and she lay in the Scheldt all night inside the forts. Ultimately she dropped anchor at Flushing, where a contingent of Red Cross workers came on board. It was explained to the Belgian patients that if they were taken on shore they would become prisoners of war, and to this they agreed. They were then carried ashore to the douane, where they were laid on the tables usually used for passengers' luggage, and their injuries were quickly and skilfully investigated by the Dutch medical officers. Labels were then attached to each patient, stating the nature of his injuries. According to these they were allotted to various hospitals, those who had bullet wounds being sent to a hospital which had an X-ray apparatus and so forth.

Miss Ward was greatly impressed with the efficiency of the personnel of the Dutch Red Cross—with the quickness, cleanliness and method with which its work was performed. The English chaplain in Antwerp and other residents were, she says, of great assistance to her, working in the hospital as orderlies. The Belgian doctors did their work with great daring and *sang froid*, and it is interesting to learn that as a dressing, after operation, they used chiefly linen soaked in methylated spirit, pure or diluted.

"Scotty" was invaluable, and it was with his help that she carried the wounded downstairs, fearing that the other nurses might over-exert themselves. Miss Ward is of opinion that the older nurses stand the strain of war work better than the younger ones. "Miss Freshfield and I," she says, "were the oldest of our party, and we stood it better than any of them." She has had previous experience of active service in the South African War, and laughingly tells that at the end of ten months, when she had not been off duty for a day, the General Commanding gave orders that she was to have a week's sick leave. She was feeling particularly fit and well, but Army Orders must be obeyed, so sick leave she had to take. "You won't make a heroine of me, will you?" said Miss Ward, and we replied in the negative, but added that we were afraid she could not help being one.

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