

Association with 2,000 pairs of fine white woollen mittens for the use of the nurses at the Front.

A most sensible appeal is being made by Frances Lady de L'Isle and Dudley for 200 pairs of india-rubber gloves, costing half-a-crown a pair, for the nurses of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Hospital of 500 beds, which is in preparation for service in France. There are many instances of nurses losing their fingers or otherwise injuring their hands from septic poisoning; and it will be readily understood that each of them should be provided with at least two pairs of these gloves, to protect them, as far as possible, from danger in their devoted work.

The Duchess of Westminster, who has been suffering with a septic throat, has left the hospital at Le Toquet for Cannes. Hospital life is somewhat more arduous than society women imagine. Lady Diana Manners was seen tripping into the Bath Club last week in full nursing canonicals. What a pity these ladies should assume this silly pose; they can be much more useful in their own social sphere, unless thoroughly trained.

The Millicent Sutherland Ambulance at Dunkirk, which has been partly closed lately, is we hear to be opened again. So far the Duchess has acted as Matron, with the natural result. Let us hope that for the future a really capable trained woman will be installed as Matron, and that she will be given adequate authority to maintain good discipline and order.

A message from the Front in the Caucasus gives a remarkable instance of heroism displayed by certain Russian Sisters of Mercy, who, with a hospital train, were temporarily captured by the Turks and afterwards rescued. After the capture of the train the Turks started to kill the wounded, but the Sisters threw their own bodies in the way. Many of the medical orderlies have also shown great bravery. One man rushed into the firing-line ten times, each time carrying out a wounded man on his shoulders.

Nurses in France are complaining they have not enough to do just now, but from Lisieux, Evreux, Deauville and other centres they appear to have had a busy time, and to be making their way into the esteem of unprejudiced people, whose heartfelt wish is the good care of the wounded.

THE ORDER OF LEOPOLD.

Lady Dorothy Fielding and Miss Chisholm, who went to Belgium on the outbreak of War, have been awarded the Order of Leopold by King Albert. For the last three months they have lived at Pervyse, and were in the town during its bombardment by the Germans. It is reported that Lady Dorothy's "five o'clock teas" among the ruins of the town have gained great fame amongst the Belgian officers.

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

The members of the French Flag Nursing Corps are delighted at being sent into the War zone. Miss M. Sutton, of the Irish Unit, has gone with the following five members of the Registered Nurses Unit, from Bordeaux to the front—Sisters Rawlins, Lind, Hitchcock, Carmichael and Gill.

Miss C. Mitchell has also taken the Scottish Unit, consisting of Sisters Bennett, Hendrie, McKinnon and Simpson to Fismes, near Soissons. The Médecin Chef expressed sincere gratitude for their services at Havre and Dr. Dundas Grant, who was over in France, kindly looking after the interests of the Corps, saw them off from the station on the first stage of their journey to Paris.

Miss Ellison has been in Dunkirk attending to the comforts of the nurses, although these are not times to expect a luxurious environment.

Miss Hanning, Supervisor, F.F.N.C., as we reported last week, has taken her small unit into the war zone to nurse enteric. She writes: "We were never more surprised than when we received through the Médecin-en-Chef the order from the Minister of War to go to Paris next day for instructions to proceed to a hospital in the fighting line. We left Bernay next day. The medical staff at our hospital at Bernay were genuinely sorry to part with us; in fact, they could hardly believe we were to go, and wanted me to wire for us to remain. They really were sorry at our departure, and we had quite fifty persons to see us off at the station—several ladies of the Croix Rouge, all the doctors who could come, several French officers, and some of the patients. Several of the doctors of 17 Hospital, and the Secretary of the Croix Rouge thanked me for all we had done for them, and hoped so much we might be sent back to Bernay some time soon. Monsieur le Commandant Courauld, Monsieur le Major Varnière, Monsieur Galbrun, and Monsieur le Major Chevillot were really *most* kind, and very anxious for us to know how we should be missed; in fact, our send-off from Bernay will be impressed on our minds for ever. We all felt very sad indeed, and several of our charming ladies wept. Three cheers were given for *l'Angleterre*, so we responded with *Vive la France* and *l'Entente Cordiale!* and so the train went off, taking us to new fields of work. I tell you of this kind send-off, as I know you will be pleased to know we have done our best, and have met with some measure of success. We met Miss Ellison in Paris, and then went off to our new destination, where after some adventures we arrived next day. We travelled from Dormans in the ambulance with four wounded; 48 sick and wounded men came with us in a long line of ambulances; it was a sad sight. We are installed in a small house of six rooms which was bombarded last September when the Germans were here, and has since been patched up. We have an early déjeuner, and go on duty at 7.30 a.m. until 6.45 p.m. We have very interesting work. Our patients are mostly typhoid, bronchial.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)