

the troops of the second Canadian contingent from Montreal to Devonport, motoring from there to Plymouth.

A number of Canadian Army Nursing Sisters recently arrived in this country as part of the staff of No. 4 Stationary Hospital (French-Canadian), with Nursing Sister Casault as Matron, and left for Boulogne last week.

Nursing Sister Douglas, Matron, and thirty-four Sisters, also left last week for France from Kingston, for No. 5 Stationary Hospital (Queen's). Another contingent from No. 5 General Hospital, Toronto, have Nursing Sister Hartley as Matron.

The following unit (No. 5) has been selected for service by the Serbian Relief Fund (British Farmers' Hospital.)

Administrator, Mr. Francis C. Parsons.

Surgical and Medical Staff, W. Amsden, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; A. K. Henry, Esq., F.R.C.S.I., M.B., B.Ch., &c.; Mrs. Milne Henry, M.D., B.Ch.

Secretary, Mr. R. C. Grey.

Matron, Miss Simmons; *Dispenser*, Miss Page.

Nursing Sisters, Misses Argent, Armstrong, Body, Butler (and Sanitary Inspector), Crouch, Foss, Furringer, McCoy, McHaffy, Morris, Moore, Murphy, Swift, West-Symes, Wheaton, Wilkins. Also 16 women orderlies and 7 men orderlies.

SCOTTISH MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The May Meeting of the Scottish Matrons' Association was held on May 29th, at 3.30 p.m., at Glasgow District Mental Hospital, Woodilee, Lenzie, by kind invitation of the Medical Superintendent and the Matron. Miss Gill, R.R.C., presided, and forty members were present.

The Hon. Secretary reported that subscriptions had been asked for to endow for six months a bed in the Scottish Women's Hospital in Serbia; and that a sum of £35 7s. 9d. had been received from the members. £25 had been sent to the Hon. Sec., Dr. Elsie Inglis; and it was suggested that, with the surplus, the other £25 could be made up without much difficulty, thus endowing the bed for one year. This was cordially approved by the meeting. A letter was read, acknowledging a subscription of £5, sent to the Scottish Red Cross Motor Ambulance Society from the funds of the Association.

Three delegates were nominated to attend the conference of the N.U.W.W. in London in October.

Three new members were elected to the Association:

Resolutions sent by the Legislation Sectional Committee and the Industrial Sectional Committee of the N.U.W.W. by the Women's Industrial Council and by the Workhouse Nursing Association, were discussed, and the Association agreed to support several of these.

After votes of thanks to Miss Gill for presiding, and to Miss Rae for her kind hospitality, a delightful tea was served, and the members were afterwards shown round the Asylum.

IS THERE A SHORTAGE OF TRAINED NURSES OR NOT?

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE HON. ALBINIA BRODRICK AND THE WAR OFFICE.

The following letter has been sent by the Hon. Albinia Brodrick to Lord Kitchener, the Secretary of State for War. Miss Brodrick is a trained and certificated nurse, midwife and sanitary inspector. We regret that owing to great pressure on our space it has been unavoidably held over.

ON THE DEFICIENCY OF TRAINED NURSES AND THE MEANS BY WHICH IT MAY BE MET.

Ballincoona,

Caher Daniel,

Co. Kerry, Ireland.

April 5th, 1915.

DEAR LORD KITCHENER,—I would like to put before you a few suggestions in regard to the means by which the shortage of nurses for our wounded men, foreseen by you, may be met.

1. By the appointment of a competent Board of Nursing experts, neither laymen, laywomen, nor doctors, to deal with the question. This Board should be directly responsible to the War Office. It is not generally realized how capable are our nursing organizers, nor how much influence our National Council of Nurses has. I venture with confidence to recommend this preliminary measure. If you could get the right nurses to form this Board, half your difficulty would be solved. May I add that we, of the Nursing Profession, are very sore that our services for the wounded have been in hundreds of cases refused, whereas young and inexperienced persons have been accepted, and we do not feel disposed to put our work again at the service of the War Office. Personally—and there are many who feel with me—I speak of what I know. I expect to offer shortly for service abroad, not under the War Office. You may have had it brought to your notice that there is no difficulty whatever in getting nurses for work with Serbian units or under the French Flag. These are fully-trained and experienced women, and are lost to our English soldiers.

2. Our sick and wounded men come first, before civilians. The conditions under which their nursing has been done has been in many cases scandalous. You will have had under your observation the case of James Gribbin, of the 3rd Royal Scots, who was, after being knocked down and run over by a motor-car, near Weymouth, conveyed to the Sidney Hall Military Hospital, where there was no resident doctor or matron; he was seen by the "Sister-in-Charge," an uncertificated and not fully-trained woman, who diagnosed him as "drunk and incapable," and sent him to the camp, to die alone in the guard tent. The post-mortem examination showed a badly fractured pelvis, and "there was no smell of alcohol in the deceased's stomach"—so Dr. F. H.

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