

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

MÉDAILLE D'HONNEUR.

Monsieur Millerand, the French Minister for War, has sent Miss Florence Cross, F.F.N.C., who so nearly lost her life from diphtheria contracted when on duty in France, a silver Medal of Honour, to be worn on a tricolour ribbon, and a Diploma informing her that it is awarded *pour Belles Actions* in the name of the President of the French Republic . . . *A assuré le service des malades contagieux avec le plus grand dévouement. A contracté la diphtérie au chevet des malades.* The recipient is further informed that—

Miss Cross est autorisée à porter cette Médaille suspendue à la boutonnière par un ruban tricolore également divisé. Ce diplôme lui a été délivré afin de perpétuer dans sa famille et au milieu de ses concitoyens le souvenir de son honorable et courageuse conduite.

The Diploma is signed by Monsieur Millerand, Ministère de la Guerre. Naturally Miss Cross values greatly this honourable recognition of her work by the French Government.

Miss Florence Cross was trained at Middlesex Hospital, and has for many years been engaged in a successful private nursing practice.

We need such a medal in England for those who risk their lives in hospitals for contagious diseases.

A Sister writes: "In the Erysipelas wards the French methods of treatment are very interesting. One day the Médecin Chef asked me to experiment on four soldiers suffering with erysipelas of the face, the first to be painted with tincture of iodine, the second with solution iodo-potassium, the third to be masked with compresses of boiling water, and the fourth with bleu de méthylène, the last an entirely new idea, but very effectual, so now we try bleu de méthylène for many things with astonishing results. With Diphtheria cases we use a large amount of serum and have very successful cases providing we get the patients in within reasonable time. I find my work here full of interest. . . . The Sisters are all very sorry that the Médecin Chef, Dr. N——, of Paris, has been called to the front. The Sisters are all very happy together.

A gentleman who thinks "so many good things come out of France," has sent Mrs. Fenwick a cheque for £250 for the funds of the Corps. This will help the work materially, as the expenses necessarily incurred in the organisation of the F.F.N.C. and actually paid out for the travelling, hotel and other expenses of a large staff of nurses, mounts up to a very considerable sum, though when compared with the huge expenditure of many war charities, we feel sure when our balance sheet is published—as it soon will be—that many administrators will marvel at the great value of the work accomplished at so small an expenditure. Donations will be gratefully acknowledged by the Hon. Treasurer.

A MOST USEFUL GIFT.

Lady Grant Duff, of the British Red Cross of Switzerland, has sent Miss Ellison three bales of most useful gifts for distribution in the hospitals where F.F.N.C. Sisters are at work.

Bale 1: 25 special parcels, each contains 1 day shirt, 1 pair drawers, 1 pair socks, 2 handkerchiefs, 1 towel, 1 wash-rag and soap, 1 toothbrush and powder (in case), 1 pocket bandage, 1 vaseline, 1 book, 1 chocolate, pencil, paper envelopes; 250 articles, 100 comforts; total 350.

Bale 2: 340 bandages, 500 wash-rags, 20 many-tailed bandages, 10 R. rolled knitted bandages, 2 cushions, 100 handkerchiefs, 8 sheets, 1 blanket, bundle old linen; total 981.

Bale 3: 9 slippers, 10 pyjamas, 10 bed jackets, 10 wounded shirts, 100 towels, 100 handkerchiefs, 7 cotton nightshirts; total 246. Total, 1,227.

Mrs. Fenwick has received from J. Bore & Co., North Hill Street Works, Liverpool, a splendid consignment of pillows for the hospitals in which the F.F.N.C. are working, with a most generous promise of more if required. We all know how much such comforts are needed, and how greatly they are appreciated by sick and worn out men.

The wonderful Marylebone depot for hospital comforts working at full speed at 2, Cavendish Square, London, W., has already sent us boxes to Neufchateau and Fismes, and as soon as the large order for the new hospital the British are sending to Russia is completed, more help is to be kindly given to the F.F.N.C. No Society seems keen on sending blankets, but we have a little plan about a consignment now the cold weather is coming along, and hope the readers of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING will help to carry it into effect at an early date.

In our opinion many more masseuses should be employed in military hospitals. The treatment is most beneficial in quite a number of cases, for which it is never employed, and we are pleased to learn from Sister Wadsworth, at Evreux, that they have now taken possession of a much larger room to enable the wounded needing such treatment to have it. Four Sisters are kept at the exercises all the time, and a fifth is to be added, and indeed this clinic is becoming quite famous for its good results.

THANKS TO THE KAISER.

"We hear that after the "bombardment" of a certain hospital last week more than one nurse expressed the pious opinion that "At last, thanks to the Kaiser, we shall have a new Home." We are not so sure, the walls still stand, more's the pity!

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