

### FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Lady Barclay has resigned the position of President of the F.F.N.C., as she is closing her London house for the present which for a year she very kindly permitted to be used as Headquarters. The Committee passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Lady Barclay for her valuable services, and for her constant attention to the welfare of the Corps, and for all the work she had done on its behalf.

At the meeting of the Committee on Tuesday, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Treasurer, presented the audited accounts for the past year, which show a very satisfactory balance, and also with what strict economy the work of the Corps both in England and France has been carried out. A very warm vote of thanks was accorded the Hon. Treasurer for the very successful manner in which the finances of the Corps have been administered. The statement of accounts is divided into three sections, the French Government's grant for nurses' uniform and tickets, and the Appeal Fund receipts and expenditure in England and France. These accounts will be incorporated in the forthcoming Report of the year's work, which is now in hand.

At a recent meeting of the Committee Miss Grace Ellison, who was present, reported how admirably the system, recently inaugurated by the Committee, worked at Paris Headquarters, with the assistance of the highly experienced Matron-in-Chief, Miss E. J. Haswell, in office. Work began at 9 a.m. every day and everything went like clockwork. The beautiful room allotted at a very moderate rent at the Hotel Bedford, was now arranged in a thoroughly business-like way, and she hoped the comfort of the nurses passing through Paris en route for duty would be considered more and more. However late they arrived, through delayed traffic, Miss Haswell always met them at the station, sometimes long after midnight. The Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, had organised the financial arrangements on an excellent system, both in Paris and London, and had shown her wisdom in firmly refusing to share financial responsibility excepting with the Committee. An enormous amount of work had thus been accomplished at a minimum cost. The Sisters were, in the majority of instances, held in the highest respect, and she was glad to report that a good number were remaining in the Corps at the expiration of their year's service. Thus services were secured for the sick and wounded which experience had made increasingly valuable. Miss Ellison agreed with the Hon. Treasurer that an effort should be made to obtain funds to increase the salaries of these senior Sisters.

The Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses has been instrumental in organising a unit of ten graduate nurses for service with the F.F.N.C., and it is hoped they will leave Canada

this month for England. Miss Gunn, Lady Superintendent of the Toronto General Hospital, has been most kind in helping to select the nurses, and Miss Weyer is the secretary of the sub-committee dealing with the matter.

The nurses are raising the cost of their transportation to and from London, where they will be taken under the wing of the Committee, and the Canadian railways and steamship lines have been kind enough to grant half rates to all nurses going to service with the F.F.N.C.

The Canadian unit will receive a very hearty welcome in London, and we hope they will come prepared for real pioneer work in France.

In the name of the Corps we have to thank the Aberdeen War Dressing Depot, 5, Bon-Accord Square, Aberdeen, for a most welcome gift of surgical supplies, of 400 pine dressings, 450 roller bandages, 80 many-tailed bandages, 20 T bandages, 50 slings, 25 pillows, and 10 pneumonia jackets. They have been sent to the Sisters at Fismes, Lisleux and Toul.

A public meeting is to be held in Bordeaux on December 3rd, to express the feelings of the Bordelais on the subject of the execution of Miss Cavell, and Miss Edith Gregory, Matron of the Talence Hospital, and as many of the Sisters of the French Flag Nursing Corps as can be spared from the wards, have been invited to attend to represent the British Nursing Profession, and many hope to be able to do so.

We have again the pleasure of acknowledging a handsome donation through a member of the Corps. Miss C. B. Forsyth, of Princeton, New Jersey, has most kindly sent Sister V. E. Macarthur who is on duty at Neufchateau, a gift of £20, 250 francs of which she has contributed to the general fund of the Corps.

Sister Carmichael writes from Hôpital Rébeval, Neufchateau:—"I have just received a box containing comforts for the soldiers in the way of sheets, mufflers, socks, and cardigans, also a roll of mackintosh, surgical bowls, and hot water bags—all these things have been in Paris since early last spring, and were sent for our hospital Jeanne d'Arc at Bergues; then the bombardment arrived, consequently the hospitals were closed. Now that we have been here some time we asked for and have received them. I want to thank you for forwarding these comforts for the French soldiers; you cannot imagine how much they are appreciated, and required, especially now in the cold weather. I ask you on our part and on the part of our patients to thank the kind people who have helped us. Their help makes our work all the more useful. It is now a year since I left London for work in the F.F.N.C., I have been very happy, the work is most interesting, the French soldiers charming to nurse."

We are pleased to hear again of that very

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