

## FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Miss Grace Ellison left for Paris on Saturday last, having dined with the President, Mme. la Vicomtesse de la Panouse on the previous evening, and consulted her concerning the future development of the Corps, in which she is deeply interested.

The Canadian unit of ten thoroughly trained Sisters sails from St. John, New Brunswick, on December 25th, and hopes to arrive in England early in the New Year. This unit has been organised through the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses, and the transport and equipment expenses provided by the generosity of the public, which is estimated at four hundred dollars for each nurse. The railway and steamship companies have most kindly provided tickets at half price. Both the Committee of the F.F.N.C. and the French Government are deeply indebted to the Canadian Nurses' National Association, and especially to the ladies who compose the War Committee, including Miss Jean L. Gunn, Lady Superintendent of the Toronto General Hospital, and Miss Anna M. Weyer, the Secretary, for so carefully selecting the right type of nurse for this special pioneer work in French military hospitals. The unit is in charge of Miss Helen McMurrick, graduate and past instructress in Montreal General Hospital, recently engaged in social work in Philadelphia and Toronto, and is composed of Miss Agnes Hanley, Assistant Superintendent, Western Hospital, Toronto; Miss Mabel Joice, Miss Miriam Hitchcock, Miss Bertha Smith, Miss Louise Hopkins, Miss Laura Robinson, Miss Florence Morris, Miss Harriet O'Brien, and Miss Emily O'Brien.

We feel sure their National Council colleagues in Britain will wish to meet their Canadian cousins, and show them some hospitality during the few days they will remain in London (wrestling with passports) *en route* for France.

Several new members of the Corps will leave for France on December 31st.

Through the good offices of Miss Edith Gregory, Matron of the Hôpital Temporaire, Talence, Bordeaux, we have had the privilege of reading in the original the fine oration spoken by M. Baylet in honour of Miss Edith Cavell at the Athenæum Municipal, Bordeaux, on December 4th. In our next issue we hope to give an abridged translation of this magnificent tribute to our martyred colleague.

Miss Gregory writes from Talence: "I think you will be very interested and pleased to know that we are getting up a French play for Christmas week. The Sisters are taking all the parts, and for men are just going to wear long coats and wigs. Everything will be quite 'correct.' It will be very amusing and will give great pleasure. Mme.

de Luz, from the Chateau near by, is helping us by lending scenery and properties. A real love for the French language would make such a difference to the working of the Corps."

A Sister writes from Besançon: "At present we have 80 patients, most of whom are *blessés*. Though this is much less than our usual number, we are kept busy. We spend the mornings in the *Salle de Pansements* doing dressings. In the afternoon we do friction, massage, take temperatures and pulses, &c. Our present 'major' is greatly in favour of friction with *alcool camphrée* for the *blessés* whose joint movements are injured. Our Médecin Chef has asked us to renew our engagement. We are pleased to do so, for it would be a real grief to us now to leave our dear patients. With regard to holidays, we have decided not to take them just yet.

"As you can understand gifts of any kind would be acceptable, surgical dressings, pillows, socks, eatables, &c. The hospital is not over well supplied and we have a great many patients passing through our hands. We have been shown every kindness and consideration since coming here, and we are greatly attached to our patients. These are possessed of a courage and power of endurance which one would think scarcely possible."

### GIFTS FOR SICK AND WOUNDED.

The following gifts have been received at the office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., through the appeal in the *Observer*, and have been packed by Miss H. Hawkins, Assist. Hon. Secretary, and sent to France:—

Miss Eden: 2 waistcoats, socks, helmets, 1 pair breeches, 1 pair gaiters.

Miss Haines: 5 pairs knitted socks.

Frederick Impey, Esq.: 11 handkerchiefs.

Miss M. Butterworth: 4 scarves, 4 pairs mittens.

Miss Helmore:  $\frac{1}{2}$  gross bobbins.

Miss E. Bennett: 1 pair socks, 4 pairs knitting pins, 20 lace bobbins.

Lady Morley: 1 lace pillow, knitting needles.

Lady Swan: 2 pairs shoes, 6 khaki handkerchiefs, 6 white handkerchiefs, 1 body belt.

Miss M. Brothers: 1 pair socks, 1 pack cards, 1 puzzle.

Miss M. Breay: 3 mufflers.

Miss Farewell: 2 shirts.

Mr. Death: 1 pair socks.

G. F. S., *per* Miss Sime: 1 pair bed socks, 4 ring pads, 1 pair mittens, 5 bedgowns.

Mrs. Atkins: 2 night shirts.

Mrs. Alfred Paine: 80 pairs slippers, 40 pairs flannel boots, 9 pairs socks, 2 pairs bed socks.

Mrs. Blackler: 2 mufflers, 1 pair mittens, 1 pair wool leggings.

Miss Davies: 6 pairs socks.

Misses M. C. and J. Hawkins: 4 shirts, 2 pairs socks, 2 pairs mittens.

Mrs. Percy: 1 pair pyjamas.

Miss E. Webber: 4 pairs socks.

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