

Parliament, which greatly interested them as enfranchised citizens of the great Commonwealth. Our sisters from overseas can hardly realise that many of the great pioneers of Woman Suffrage in the Old Country are old enough to be their grandmothers. They must not forget, however, that they owe much of their status and liberty to the labours of these fine women, whose own reward is so long overdue.

On Thursday, 4th instant, an interesting luncheon party was held in the Oak Room of the Trocadero, when Mr. and Mrs. Jørgensen entertained His Excellency the Norwegian Minister, Mr. Vogt, and a party of well-known Norwegians resident in England who have been instrumental in bringing to this country a group of Norwegian nurses at present stationed in various Military Hospitals in London, for whom the luncheon party was primarily arranged.

After all were seated and the soup served the host rose to his feet and, in Norwegian, welcomed everybody to the table, the custom in Norway being (as explained by His Excellency to one of the guests) not to welcome the people on their arrival in the house, but when they sat down to eat; in the same manner as, the moment the meal was finished, the guests surrounded the host and hostess saying "Tak for maten," which, being interpreted, means "Thanks for the meal."

It is another Norwegian custom when next you dine with the same people to thank them for the last meal, however short or long a time may have elapsed in between, even if it runs into years.

Later on Mr. Jørgensen made a charming speech, in which, after referring to the gratification felt by everyone for His Excellency's recovery from his recent illness and his presence there that day, he went on to acknowledge the appreciation of the Norwegians of the manner in which the Military Hospitals had received and treated their nurses.

Miss Fletcher, Matron of the Richmond Military Hospital, in rising to respond on behalf of English nurses, thanked Mr. Jørgensen for his kind words of appreciation and took the opportunity of expressing the gratitude of English people generally for the generous gift of the Norwegians in sending from their country a group of nurses to help in this time of need, who were appreciated so much for their charming personality as well as for the excellent work they had rendered.

Managers of hospitals and nursing institutions are naturally gratified to find the nurses trained and connected with their institutions decorated with the Royal Red Cross, and mentioned in despatches.

Trained at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, Miss Annie Duncan, Miss Jessie Duncan, Miss Annie McD. Wright and Miss Mary R. Thomson have recently been given the R.R.C., and Miss Kate Carruthers, Miss Jessie A. Connal, Miss Margaret Heggie, Miss Jessie B. Young, and Miss A. McD. Wright have been mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's despatches.

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

From many letters received from France, the Sisters of this Corps have been helping their patients to enjoy an English "Merry Christmas." In France, the *Jour de l'An* is the great festival.

Sister de l'Épine, its only thoroughly trained French Sister (St. Thomas's), writes, "We have just got over the *Noël des Poilus*, as people say here. It was a very nice and bright day. I think they all enjoyed it very much, and they were delighted with their little souvenirs. Some of the presents came from England, and were much appreciated, especially the cigarettes, tobacco, and sweets. Ever since Christmas we have been very busy; the ambulance is full up. It is such good interesting work."

Sister Maize says, "We managed, through all the adverse conditions of present life, to spend a very happy Christmas with our patients, and their gratitude repaid us abundantly."

Sister C. Perkins writes: "We gave the patients a very nice Christmas here—tea, fruit, and presents. I made a little sack for each one of mine, and tied them all to an iron which goes across the huts. Each soldier was blindfolded, and had to cut down a sack without touching it with his left hand. It was great fun. We had songs and games, and smokes, and were all very happy."

Sister Gill also reports a festive time. "Each patient received a present of clothing, and we decorated a festive table and provided them all with extra fare. In the afternoon all those capable of going immensely enjoyed a play given by the Belgian Ambulance unit here." The Sisters, who live on a large barge, seem recently to have had a breezy time—tremendous gales and torrents of rain. "It is all the men can do to keep the boats moored; they are continually breaking loose, and the tarpaulins have a habit of blowing away just at the most inconvenient moment." We feel sure a lot of cobwebs must at the same time be scattered to the four winds, and minds braced by the turbulent elements. Personally we glory in high winds.

M. le Député Peyroux, méd. chef, writes:—"I am delighted to have Miss Gill and Miss Rolph at my hospital, and still more delighted with the immense services they render." This is specially acceptable praise from so high an authority.

The first Canadian unit of the Corps has now completed its first year's service, and we are glad to know that with one exception all the Sisters propose to remain members of the Corps for a time. Their work has been highly efficient and greatly appreciated by their French patients.

We have to thank Mrs. Stabb for a most welcome parcel for the use of the Sisters of the F.F.N.C. of rubber water bottles and covers, and other useful articles for ward equipment. They have been sent to Toul.

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