

that they were resident abroad. It was suggested that hospital nurses were not resident abroad under the Act.

Mr. Baldwin replied that if Mr. Fell could give him a specific case he would investigate it and give a satisfactory answer.

The special correspondent of *The Times* at French Headquarters, referring to the building up of towns and villages devastated by the Germans, most of which work will have to wait till after the war, writes that "Noyon has been 'adopted' by the city of Washington, and Detroit wishes to enter into the same relationship with the cruelly battered town of Soissons, which continues to suffer at frequent intervals from the bombs and shells of the enemy.

"Individual effort is also playing its part in the humane work of building up what the German has broken and burnt down. Not far away there is a completely ruined little village which has found a fairy godmother in a kind-hearted Frenchwoman, Mme. de Chabannes, who was made prisoner by the enemy in Maubeuge, where she was acting as a nurse at the beginning of the war, and has since been decorated with the Croix de Guerre. Her plan has been to replace the vanished cottages with portable buildings easily and quickly erected, and, given all the circumstances, that is probably as good a method of encouraging and facilitating the present repopulation of these wasted districts as can be devised."

#### THE SILVER WAR BADGE.

An amended Army Order has been published governing the issue of the Silver War Badge for those discharged after service. Subject to the approval of the Army Council, the badge will now be issued to the persons specified if they have served with the military forces subsequent to August 4th, 1914.

(a) Those who, having served as officers, and, being still of military age, have retired, resigned, or relinquished their commissions: (1) After service overseas in the armed forces of the Crown, on account of disablement or ill-health caused otherwise than by misconduct; (2) after service at home, and have been medically examined and finally discharged from liability to further military service under sub-section (5) of Section 1 of the Military Service (Review of Exceptions) Act, 1917, as permanently and totally disabled, otherwise than from misconduct.

The regulation as to the eligibility of nurses is as follows:—

(f) Nurses and members of Voluntary Aid Detachments who have been discharged on account of old age, wounds, or sickness, such as would render them permanently unfit for further service.

The expression "Served Overseas in the Armed Forces of the Crown" is to be interpreted as follows:—

(a) "Served Overseas" is intended to cover the cases of all those who have served out of the United Kingdom (that is, Great Britain and

Ireland, including the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man). It will apply to all those who have served in the Naval Forces of the Crown at Sea.

(b) "Armed Forces of the Crown" will include the Royal Naval Service, the Royal Marines, any of His Majesty's Regular, Reserve, or Auxiliary Forces, and any of the Expeditionary Forces raised by the Governments of His Majesty's Dominions.

The expression "military age" is as defined in the Military Service Acts.

#### CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll last week visited the limbless soldiers at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, and spent a considerable time in the Queen Mary's Workshops.

On Tuesday last, Princess Louise visited the Edmonton Military Hospital, where she opened the Y.M.C.A. Military Hut and an exhibition of Art Work done by the patients. The Chairman of the Edmonton Hospital Committee (Mr. E. G. Cole, J.P.), Lieut.-Col. Spencer Mort, F.R.C.S. (Officer Commanding), Miss Dowbiggin, R.R.C. (Matron) and others received Her Royal Highness. Mrs. Harrison and her staff of workers, in black-and-white check dresses, dainty aprons and mob caps, did the honours of the hut, the prevailing colour notes of which were fawn and blue. After the Princess had declared the hut open, in a charming speech, and presented the military medal to some of the patients, some most amusing sports were held in the lovely grounds. Boat races (rowed on terra firma with crutches), tanks, aeroplanes, and even allotment gardens, were all most cleverly represented by convalescent patients.

The following letter has been addressed to the Right Honourable the Earl of Derby, Secretary of State for War, on behalf of the Central Medical War Committee, of which Mr. T. Jenner Verrall is Chairman. The letter is signed by Mr. N. Bishop Harman and Dr. Alfred Cox, the Secretaries, who write:—"We are instructed to inform you that the Central Medical War Committee, after a careful survey of the whole of England and Wales, is of opinion that no more medical men can be called upon to take commissions in the R.A.M.C., without seriously endangering the supply of doctors for the treatment of the civil community, and that further depletion can only be effected on the responsibility of the Government after carefully comparing the military with the civil needs. A few more appeals still remain to be heard before the last man considered available by the committee has entered the Army, but from September onwards it will be quite impossible, under present powers and conditions, to satisfy the large demands of the Army Medical Department, which are now stated to be greatly increased."

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