

marvellous results of what he described as "intensive surgery," and how in each case the man's trade and occupation were carefully considered, in order that the injured member should be most usefully adapted for that object. He instanced a milkman, whose arm was set at an angle. In these orthopædic centres by intensive surgery the injured member was restored to as near the normal as art could make it.

He instanced a case of torn nerve, where healthy material had been transplanted, and in three months the patient was able to raise the arm that had been paralysed.

Another case was the loss of a thumb, necessary to the man's calling. The top of a finger was transplanted from the opposite hand, and for some days it received the circulation from both arms until the union was well effected.

He believed in the occupation of the patient, and this should be brought about by persuasive methods rather than compulsion. Cigarette smoking and the noisy gramophone were no cure for apathy.

Shepherd's Bush had been the first directly curative experiment.

He said that at the outset of the war amputations were done that now were avoided. They received their patients now straight from the field, before deformity had set in, and cripples in the old sense of the word would cease to exist. He pleaded for continuity of treatment when the time came for their discharge, "war weary, and sick to death of hospital life." Some cases would need treatment for two years afterwards. Centres should be set up in all parts to deal with these, and also to encourage them to appreciate the dignity of work. "The idle grown-up cripple," he said, "almost invariably becomes degenerate."

Of the cases treated in orthopædic centres, 75 per cent. of them returned to the Army, and but for these centres the men would neither have been fit again for military or civil life.

A very interesting discussion followed.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES.

A Meeting of the National Council of Trained Nurses will be held on December 15th, principally for the purpose of electing or re-electing the Hon. Officers:—

A President,
One Vice-President,
Two Directors,

The Hon. Treasurer, and

The Hon. Secretary.

The President, Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Secretary are eligible for re-election. Nominations must be sent to Miss B. Cutler, the Hon. Secretary, before December 8th.

BEATRICE CUTLER,

Hon. Secretary.

THE FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

We have very great pleasure in announcing that Sister Mary Sutton and Sister K. O'Leary, who for so long nursed with so much devotion French soldiers suffering with contagious diseases at Rébéval Hospital, Neufchâteau, have been awarded the Silver *Medaille des Epidémies* by the French Government. We offer sincere congratulations to both Sisters, who have completed three years' excellent service as members of the F.F.N.C. and well deserve the recognition they have received.

Now that the Americans have settled into Bordeaux as their base and taken over the Talence Hospital and Lycée, the F.F.N.C. Sisters have fittted away to pastures new. Many are in the war zone, and write of "Taubes" and bombs in the most cheery manner. It is marvellous that so very few nurses lose their nerve. *Commotio Cerebri* does not appear to attack them in any number.

During a recent visit to Bordeaux, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss Ellison had the pleasure of meeting M. le Général Clarac, Inspecteur Directeur, Service de Santé, 18th Region, who spoke in the warmest terms of praise of the Sisters of the F.F.N.C. working under his inspection. Subsequently he sent Miss Ellison the following letter:—

Cabinet du Médecin Inspecteur,
Bordeaux.

Mademoiselle,—Each time that I have had the honour of meeting you, I have spoken of the very great satisfaction felt by the Service de Santé of the 18th Region in regard to the remarkable manner in which the English Nurses attached to Hospital 25, at Talence, carried out their duties.

Since you have asked me to repeat my opinion, I do so with the greatest pleasure, happy to be a witness for your admirable colleagues, who, during their stay at Hospital 25, have always shown the greatest devotion in their care of the wounded, devotion which was only equalled by their great capability.

For all this, Mademoiselle, your colleagues and yourself are deserving of all the gratitude of the Service de Santé and of our wounded. I repeat for you and for them all my thanks, as well as the assurance of my most respectful homage.

(Signed) CLARAC.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)