

## CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

The Queen has sent a gift of books and magazines for the libraries which the Victoria League collects for Australian hospital ships. Novels, travels, poetry, and monthly magazines are urgently needed, and will be acknowledged if sent to the Victoria League at 2, Millbank House, Westminster, S.W. 1.

The Director-General of Voluntary Organisations, Scotland House, New Scotland Yard, S.W. 1, notifies that the following gift articles are especially needed during the next few weeks:—

Comforts for troops—Knitted comforts of all kinds, handkerchiefs (dark shades), games, both for indoor and outdoor use.

Hospital Supplies—Slippers, hospital bags, strong walking sticks, and puzzles.

All gifts should be forwarded to the nearest Voluntary Organisations' Depot, or to the Comforts Depot, 45, Horseferry Road, Westminster, S.W. 1.

## THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

A meeting of the Central Committee was held on Saturday last, in the Council Chamber, at 429, Strand, W.C., by the courtesy of the British Medical Association, and was well attended.

Mr. Paterson, Hon. Treasurer, was in the chair.

Alterations were agreed to in the Constitution of the Provisional Nursing Council which, under the Bill, has power to frame the rules, which add further security for the representation of trained nurses, and the immediate policy of the Executive Committee was defined.

Many of the Nurse delegates had, under the new Reform Bill, attained full citizenship since the previous meeting, and appeared fully alive to their responsibility in considering their professional affairs.

## WAR BONDS.

The President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses has received a most generous donation of £21 from Miss E. B. Kingsford—one of its most active members. "In these days," says Miss Kingsford, "one must buy War Bonds to help save the world from tyranny with any superfluous cash; charity begins at home—why not give it for the purpose of preserving the professional liberty of nurses in this country, for which our Society is making so determined a fight against a dangerous scheme for our subjugation?"

Why not, indeed? A very sound argument and a very generous and consistent policy, for which her fellow-members sincerely thank Miss Kingsford.

## ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice has accepted the position of Vice-President of the Royal British Nurses' Association. The King and all the Royal Family have shown sincere personal interest in the care of the sick before and during the war.

### LECTURE BY MRS. DICKINSON BERRY, M.D.

Miss Margaret Macdonald, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief of the Canadian Army Nursing Service, presided at the very interesting lecture given by Mrs. Dickinson Berry, M.D., under the auspices of the Royal British Nurses' Association, at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Thursday, February 22nd, in which she described the work of the unit to which she was recently attached in Russia and Rumania.

Miss Macdonald, in introducing the lecturer, said the occasion was a very interesting one. Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson Berry went out to Serbia early in August, 1915, and had been prisoners for three months in the hands of the Austrians. Nothing daunted, they returned again to their work.

Mrs. Berry said that under the authority of the British Red Cross Society two units were sent out to the so-called Serbian Army at Odessa, and left England on September 2nd, one under Mr. Berry, the other under Dr. Clemow. They took a northerly and circuitous route to avoid submarines and were within 1,000 miles of the North Pole coming south to Archangel and Moscow. The Army to which they went was composed of volunteers from Austrian prisoners (that is a position which requires some explanation to those unacquainted with Serbian history. When war broke out there were in Austria-Hungary seven millions of Southern Slavs, and they cannot be blamed for not wanting to fight against men of their own race in the Serbian or Russian Armies; as Mr. R. W. Seton Watson has said, "To-day all Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, the three brother peoples, call themselves Southern Slavs or Yugoslavs, just as English, Scots, Welsh and Irish all call themselves British, and they wish to form an United Kingdom, just as we four form an United Kingdom in these islands.") It is easy, therefore, to understand Mrs. Dickinson Berry's statement that important political questions were involved in connection with the Army to which they were sent.

The unit which was transferred to the Russian Army went by rail to Renin, a frontier town, where the railway ended; and then, eventually by the Danube, to Galatz. At Renin they were housed, with another unit, in one-half of a magnificent school—the Rumanians retaining the other half. Each unit had nine motor cars. The cases were very severe and, unfortunately, nearly all were septic when they arrived, as their wounds were several days old.

Later the unit moved to Odessa, where they established themselves in the house of a Greek Bishop who had recently died.

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