

Force Nursing Sisters War Memorial Fund. They placed wreaths on the graves of Canadian nursing sisters in England, and they asked Lady Sybil Grey, who is in France, to place wreaths on Canadian nurses' graves in that country, sending her a sum of money for the purpose. The Canadian sisters have also seen to it that the graves of their comrades who died during the war have suitable headstones.

To the Hon. Mrs. Ronald Graham Murray, who lent her house in Cheyne Place as a nurses' rest home, the matrons and nursing sisters have presented a silver jewel case ornamented with a gold maple leaf and bearing the inscription, "Presented to the Hon. Mrs. Ronald Graham Murray, by the Overseas Canadian Army Nursing Service, in happy recollection of her kind hospitality." A similar casket was presented to the Hon. Mrs. John Gretton, who lent her house in Ennismore Gardens as a nurses' rest home. To Miss Edith McDougall, who maintained a home for nurses at St. Lawrence, Isle of Wight, and reserved four beds in it for Canadian nurses, a similar casket was also given.

To Dame Maud McCarthy, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, B.E.F., a silver photograph frame, bearing a gold maple leaf, was presented in token of her kindly interest in and assistance to the Canadian Army Nursing Service. To Lady Astor a silver casket similar to that already described was presented in grateful memory of her kindness to the Canadian nursing sisters from the time they arrived, and of her interest in their work and recreation. The nurses also subscribed to a fund for a presentation to Mrs. Kerr-Lawson, Superintendent of the Queen Mary's Hostel for Nurses.

The matrons and nursing sisters of the Canadian Service have greatly appreciated the many kindnesses and courtesies which they have received, and the wonderful hospitality which has been extended to them. They are very grateful, and will always remember with great pleasure the warm welcome they have received in the Motherland.

#### STAYING POWER OF SOUTH AFRICAN NURSES.

Worthy tributes have been paid to the fighting men of South Africa, but if you ask the soldiers themselves, says *South Africa*, they consider that not nearly enough has been said of the South African nurses who helped so much to bear the burden of these anxious years, alike at the Richmond Hospital and near the firing line in France. The Matron of the South African Nursing Contingent, Mrs. Creagh, O.B.E., R.R.C., told the story of her unit in an interview. The Contingent, since the autumn of 1915, has been busy, first in England, and then in France, working among the sick and wounded from the battlefields of the Western front. Mrs. Creagh is impressed by the remarkable staying power, as well as the high professional quality, of the South African nurses who formed her staff, and not less so by the cheerful readiness of the South African orderly, unused as South African boys are to menial duties of any kind, to carry out the most distasteful tasks associated with running hospitals.

## NURSES REGISTRATION (No. 2) BILL. DEBATE ON THE SECOND READING.

### SECOND READING MOVED BY MINISTER OF HEALTH.

In the House of Commons on November 18th, when the third Order of the Day, Nurses Registration (No. 2) Bill was reached, and read, the Minister of Health (Dr. Addison) moved the Second Reading in the following words:—"I beg to move that the Bill be now read a second time." He continued:—

This Bill is upon a subject which has been before the House for very many years in a sporadic form, and has often been the subject of private Members' Bills, which have shared the usual vicissitudes of those measures, and, unfortunately, at different times its course has been a good deal interrupted, and sometimes, perhaps, made difficult, by various controversies which have arisen around this subject amongst different persons interested in it. It is one of our purposes to improve the condition of the nursing services throughout the country, and there are few matters more important to the well-being and the health of sick people and the nurture and care of young children than an additional and better provision of well-qualified nurses, and it is essential, as a first step to placing these services upon a proper basis that we should know who those nurses are. Therefore, it is that the provision of a register, properly drawn up, of those who are entitled to be registered, is the first condition to an extensive improvement in the nursing services. Also, I hope it will indirectly do a great deal to improve the nurse's pocket, because, I am sorry to say, that the payments which have been made to nurses have often been of a very discreditable kind, in my opinion—much less than the wages of an ordinary cook or kitchenmaid—and it is thoroughly discreditable that it should be so. At the same time, their training is exceedingly arduous, their hours are very long, and, I believe, arising out of this—although the Bill does not deal with their conditions of employment—we shall take the first essential step to put this great and important profession upon a proper basis. This Bill, therefore, is limited to the compilation of a register and to the setting up of the necessary authority to compile the register, and to prescribe the conditions necessary for admission to it.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MAJOR BARNETT'S SERVICES.

I think we should not have arrived at this stage—at any rate at this juncture—had it not been for the services rendered to this cause by the Bill introduced earlier in the Session by the hon. and gallant Gentleman (Major Barnett), who brought the matter to a head, and in the course of the discussions on his Bill and on another conflicting Bill which was introduced into the House of Lords, it was quite obvious that a number of controversies of a subordinate character needed to be settled outside before there was real hope of getting a

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