

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL FOR NURSES FOR FRENCH WOMEN IN PARIS AS PROPOSED BY THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR DEVASTATED FRANCE.

Major Julia C. Stimson, Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps, U.S.A., writes in the *American Journal of Nursing* :—

The following paragraphs from the latest printed report of the American Committee, which appeared in April, 1923, give in as brief a form as possible the situation at that time about the new school :—

" In the report for the period ending October 1st, 1922, considerable space was given to the need and plan for a model school for French nurses in Paris. It was pointed out that the Public Health Nursing of the American Committee in the Department of the Aisne had made a demonstration of the actual saving of lives that proper nursing could accomplish and that it had been possible to secure this proper kind of nursing only from the Ecole Florence Nightingale at Bordeaux, the one school for nurses in France which is training nurses along accepted American lines. That more graduates of such schools are urgently needed was stated, and that this need is recognised more and more by a group of the most progressive and well-known French doctors (headed by Dr. Calmette), who have evidenced their desire for a modern nurse training school in Paris by asking the American Committee to assist them in founding one.

" The preliminary survey of the situation was described and certain conclusions reached, which were in brief, that: (1) The need of a model training school for French nurses in Paris has been fully demonstrated. (2) The best known French doctors desire such a school established and will themselves support and assist in every way. (3) Dr. Oberthur, of the Hospital of Auteuil, probably will be able with a group of medical collaborators to expand the present hospital in such a way as to make it a desirable field of instruction and practice for the proposed new school. (4) The present Rue Amyot School, as the best theoretical school for nurses in Paris, offers an opportunity for co-operation with the new school for nurses that would be of advantage for each. (5) It is planned that the present Director of the Rue Amyot School, Mademoiselle de Joannis, will be the ultimate Directrice of the new school.

" Since the publication of this report, progress has been made along the following lines: (1) Mademoiselle de Joannis has completed a five months' course in Hospital Training School Administration at Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York, and also has made an intensive study of various well-known schools of nursing in New York, Washington, Baltimore, and Boston. In February she returned to the Rue Amyot School in Paris, and has continued to take an active part in all the conferences regarding the new school. (2) Miss Walker, Director of Public Health Nursing of the American Committee, went

to New York and upon several occasions in November, December, and January last met with the Sub-Committee on the formation of a school of nursing, which had been appointed by the American Committee. With a small group of Sub-Committee members and Mademoiselle de Joannis, she assisted in the preparation of a carefully detailed plan of organisation for the proposed school and of a budget. (3) The Sub-Committee appointed a temporary American Director of the new school, who sailed from New York on February 10th, with Mademoiselle de Joannis. The American Director was relieved from her present position as Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps and Dean of the Army School of Nursing in Washington, D.C., for a period of three months, and was commissioned by the U.S. War Department, at the request of the American Committee for Devastated France, to study certain conditions in Paris and to make recommendations regarding the organisation of the new school and its relation to the groups of people concerned. (4) Many conferences were held and much time was given to the study of the present conditions of the Rue Amyot School and the Auteuil Hospital and other less closely connected associations, and also of the possible relationship of these organisations to the new school. (5) Propositions including conditions and contracts for the affiliation of the groups concerned now are being considered, as is also a temporary plan for the present Rue Amyot School to take over at least part of the nursing of the present Auteuil Hospital as a beginning, around which the new school can be developed when the new school buildings and the new hospital buildings are constructed on the Auteuil site. (6) Payment of Frs. 200,000 has been made by the American Committee for the portion of the site owned by Dr. Oberthur on which the new school is to be constructed. (7) Agreements for the closest co-operation and affiliation have been made with the Ecole Florence Nightingale at Bordeaux and the School for Nurses of the American Hospital at Neuilly (the latter school accepts English-speaking nurses only, as the hospital is for Americans only)."

In the month following the printing of this report the following contracts were completed: (a) Between the American Committee for Devastated France and the Centre Français de Médecine et de Chirurgie (Dr. Oberthur's organisation) with regard to finances. (b) Between the Comité de Perfectionnement pour la Formation des Infirmières Françaises (Dr. Calmette's Committee), and the Centre Français de Médecine et de Chirurgie with regard to medical and surgical service in the new hospital. (c) Between a Committee representing the new school and the Centre Français de Médecine et de Chirurgie. Agreements between the Rue Amyot School and the American Committee.

On May 14th, the Sub-Committee in New York approved all contracts and plans as presented by the temporary American Director upon her return from Paris. This fact was cabled to the Headquarters of the American Committee in Paris,

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