

of the Albert Canal. He was wounded in the shoulder also. An employee of a North Country municipality, he has been assured that he will be taken back if he can qualify as a telephone operator. He has begun his re-education on the switchboard, and assures the chairman that he intends to "make good." A Cameronian (Scottish Rifles), 28 years old, a fitter in a London engineering works, was blinded at Ypres by a bursting shell. He, too, is learning to operate a switchboard. A Sheffield colliery worker, who joined up in the York and Lancaster Regiment, was blinded in a rifle accident. He is learning knitting and typewriting, and is proud to have knitted a shopping bag which is to be a gift to his mother. He is also knitting a scarf for an R.A.F. friend.

The men are in various stages of recovery. "I found my way alone to the bathroom this morning," one boy told Sir Ian Fraser, and was obviously very pleased with himself. He had begun to learn to be blind. One or two have already started to learn to typewrite or to read Braille, or to undertake some light handwork to accustom them to using their fingers.

We have recently called attention to the needs of St. Dunstan's, but the war has brought new burdens. Dominion troops, it is pointed out, are taking their place in the active defence of the Mother Country; their eye casualties will be cared for by St. Dunstan's. So, also, will those of members of the Merchant Service and regular policemen and firemen blinded by enemy action. At the request of the Ministry of Health, St. Dunstan's is to take civilian eye cases that might arise out of air raids, or among the personnel of the fishing fleets, through enemy action, for medical and surgical treatment, and provide them with that early rehabilitation and adjustment to blindness which is so essential. "St. Dunstan's will remain primarily a Service institution, and first among the claims upon our reserves will be the essential needs of the veterans to whom assurances of life-long care have been given. We think our subscribers will agree that these assurances were right." The inevitable consequence of these assurances, together with the fresh responsibilities of the day, is that new funds must be collected to enable the good work to go on.

THINK OF YOUR SAVIOURS EVERY DAY.

WHERE TO SEND GIFTS AND DONATIONS.

Donations in money and in kind are urgently needed to supply extra comforts and minor luxuries to members of the Forces, wounded men in hospital, and prisoners of war. Many centres are appealing for money to buy wool and are storing knitted goods for next winter.

BRITISH PRISONERS OF WAR IN GERMANY.

Those men of the British Forces who have fallen into enemy hands are enduring great strain and loneliness in German prison camps. Their monotony can be made more bearable by books, games, sports gear, musical instruments, etc. Donations, large or small, should be sent to Sir Hugh Walpole, chairman, or Miss Christine Knowles, hon. secretary, British Prisoners of War Books and Games Fund, 506, Carrington House, Hertford Street, W.1. Censorship regulations preclude acceptance of gifts in kind.

MERCHANT NAVY COMFORTS SERVICE.

Requests have been made for suitable sheet-music to be used in sing-songs and concerts on board. Popular ballads are most wanted, as well as books of songs for community singing. Gifts should be sent to the Merchant Navy Comforts Service, 1, Lloyd's Avenue, E.C.3.

FRENCH RED CROSS.

The British Committee for the French Red Cross and other French War Charities has since the armistice ceased to send any supplies to France and is now solely concerned with French wounded in British hospitals.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES FINANCE.

In reply to the communication from Dean Effie Taylor, President, International Council of Nurses, circulated last month to the 51 Member Organisations of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, inviting an expression of opinion on financial proposals made necessary by war—23 replies have been received, all agreeing to the five proposals. Few Organisations could call members together owing to their distribution all over the country; but suspension of subscriptions appears necessary considering the unsettled condition of numerous countries devastated by war. The fact that a handsome surplus of funds was available in 1939 relieves the directors from anxiety for the immediate future.

Several Presidents, N.C.N., desired to express sincere gratitude to the American Nurses' Association for its constructive organisation during this crisis, and to Dean Effie Taylor and her staff for their unfailing courtesy from temporary headquarters at New Haven, U.S.A.

THE NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING.

Deputation to the Minister of Health.

On August 19th last a deputation from the Royal College of Nursing was received by the Minister of Health, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, "who pointed out to him the complications arising from the incursions into the nursing field of 'nursing auxiliaries' in addition to the existing untrained 'assistant nurses,' and the further complications which would probably arise from this source at the end of the war."

An Inexcusable Campaign.

We are not surprised that at last the Royal College of Nursing is beginning to realise the serious problem facing the Nursing profession owing to competition of untrained "assistant nurses" and so-called "nursing auxiliaries"; at least, we presume the controllers of the College policy in this connection realise, as many of its members do, how inexcusable its campaign in support of the recommendations of the Athlone Committee were, which advocated that semi-trained, unexamined women, termed "assistant nurses," should be recognised by the State as qualified to nurse sick people, and have their names placed on a Roll controlled by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, the governing body of efficiently trained nurses whose names after examination are qualified to be placed on the Register of Nurses, under the Nurses' Registration Act of 1919.

The Minister made no pledges, and, indeed, it does not appear feasible that any constructive policy, either educational or economic, can be devised and adopted during the present upheaval in hospital routine.

There is little doubt that when war is at an end, the whole economic policy of the country will need drastic reorganisation.

Let Registered Nurses consider carefully their own problems, and be ready to help in the maintenance of high standards of nursing and national health.

THE ROYAL WATERLOO HOSPITAL NURSES' LEAGUE.

On Saturday, August 10th, the members of the above League held their summer meeting at St. Andrew's House Club, Mortimer Street, W.1.

Owing to war conditions it was not possible to meet at the hospital, which is the usual arrangement. This was a special meeting for the past and present members of the nursing staff, and also one of mixed feelings, for it was the first meeting of the League since the resignation of Miss

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