

G. M. Simms, S.R.N., who was Matron of the hospital for 17 years, and who is the President.

This opportunity was taken to make her a presentation. The gifts consisted of a cheque, an expanding attache case, and a leather book with the hospital badge embossed in silver. This book, which has been beautifully inscribed by a member of the nursing staff, contained the names of those who had contributed, and it expressed the admiration of those qualities of Miss Simms which had inspired the nurses in their training and their work, and showed the affection in which she was held, with gratitude for her ever ready understanding and personal interest in each member of the nursing staff.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

The King held an Investiture in Buckingham Palace on September 3rd, when His Majesty decorated Miss Annabella Ralph, R.G.N., Matron-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service, with the Royal Red Cross. We congratulate her on this signal honour, so deeply appreciated by every nurse who receives it.

EIRE. ARD-COMAIRLE BANALTRAN. (GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL.)

The General Nursing Council for Eire give notice that the fee for the retention of the Nurses' names on the Register must be paid on or before October 31st, 1940.

Failure to pay the yearly retention fee (payable in advance) means the exclusion of the nurse's name from both the manuscript and printed register after December 31st, 1940.

Individual notices have been sent to each nurse on the Register, but there may be cases where they have not given notice of their change of address. In such cases nurses are requested to communicate with the Registrar, 75, Merrion Square, Dublin.

Every nurse should value this evidence of professional legal status, and very punctually remit her fee for the insertion of her name in the State Register.

If they realised the stupendous effort it required upon the part of their predecessors to attain legal status, no nurse eligible would fail to avail herself of its great privilege.

LEGACIES TO NURSES.

Lady Eva Sarah Louisa Dugdale, of Mount Street, Mayfair, Extra Woman of the Bedchamber to Queen Mary, left £2,000 to "my faithful nurse," Isabel Buist. It is to be regretted that this fortunate nurse is not registered.

OUR EXCHANGES.

"Our Exchanges," the professional journals of the organised groups of nurses of the world, which we receive monthly in exchange for our *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*, keep one in good heart; there is always news of an inspiring character from one country or another and lessons to be learned from free nurses' organisations.

The Canadian Nurse for August informs us that Miss Elizabeth L. Smellie, C.B.E., R.R.C., has been appointed the Matron-in-Chief in Canada by the Military Authorities of the Dominion, and her colleagues in the Canadian Nurses' Association claim that Miss

Smellie will be able to interpret their fervent desire to offer the full measure of devotion and service to their beloved country.

Miss Smellie has always been keenly interested in the welfare of all nurses who served overseas. She is a member and a past-President of the Ottawa branch of the Overseas Nursing Sisters' Association and a member of the Canadian Legion. It is as the Chief Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses of Canada that she is universally known and beloved in Canada.

Another item of patriotic news we cull from *The Canadian Nurse* is that at the recent meeting of the Canadian Nurses' Association held at Calgary, the Association went on record as reaffirming its pledge of loyalty and service to the Government of Canada.

In a letter addressed to the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. W. L. Mackenzie King, Miss Grace Fairley, President, states: "We realise that the need is becoming increasingly great and the demand for service more urgent. Our members stand ready to respond to any call from you, Sir, whether it be for home or overseas defence, for health or nursing service, or in any other need that

may arise.

"We are to-day notifying the Minister of National Defence that the Canadian Nurses' Association voted unanimously to present the Government with three surgical units, at a total cost of forty-five hundred dollars."

The Prime Minister has sent a gracious acknowledgment to the Nurses in which he states: "My colleagues and I very much appreciate the patriotic determination of the Canadian Nurses' Association to contribute their services and resources so generously to the war effort of our country."

A surgical unit consists of an operating table, instruments and steriliser for mobile use in the field.



MISS ANNABELLA RALPH, R.G.N., Matron-in-Chief,
Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service.

previous page

next page