

GRENFELL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

MEDICAL WORK AMONGST BRITISH SETTLERS IN LABRADOR AND NORTHERN NEWFOUNDLAND.

The great work inaugurated by the late Sir Wilfred Grenfell, K.C.M.G., M.D., F.R.C.S., in what used to be far-away Labrador, but with which aviation can now keep us quite close, has always fascinated nurses, and we know many who love this sparkling land and who find work amidst ice and snow quite fascinating.

The Grenfell Mission is, we learn, very truly engaged in war work in looking after the families of the men from Northern Newfoundland and Labrador who are serving overseas. This year more children need the shelter of the homes and boarding schools, and funds are also required to help women by giving them employment in the making of handicrafts.

Our readers have in the past helped the funds by buying the beautiful Christmas cards, but owing to war and paper shortage these cannot be issued this year. But new coloured photograph postcards of the North are on sale which are very realistic and beautiful, costing only 1s. for six. We specially admire St. Anthony Hospital, St. Anthony, the chief hospital and centre for the various activities of the International Grenfell Association; "A Contribution from Greenland," magnificent icebergs, resplendent and sparkling, are a menace to vessels on the Labrador coast—and well we remember them on our last visit to Canada before escaping through a fleet of these glistening glories through the Straits of Belle Isle into the St. Lawrence River. Further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, Grenfell Association, 66, Victoria Street, S.W.1. The cards are published by Raphael Tuck and Sons, Ltd.

"Nursing in Labrador."

Leaflet No. 22, "Nursing in Labrador," is inspired by the words of the great founder of the Association, who said: "My own principle has always been when two paths were open to take the more venturesome."

What Sir Wilfred did in Labrador and Northern Newfoundland has proved an inspiration to many, and in spite of difficulties and hardships, those who have gone to nurse under the Grenfell Mission would be the first to acknowledge that nursing in Labrador has been a worthwhile task and one which has brought with it lasting satisfaction.

There are now four hospitals and seven nursing stations in Labrador and Northern Newfoundland. Those in charge of these nursing centres have great responsibilities, as owing to distance and climatic conditions they only have occasional visits from doctors, perhaps only once during the winter. It is often very difficult to get patients to hospital. It takes a lot of courage for a patient to face a journey of 70 miles by dog team, a journey which may take several days. The patient travels in a coach-box, a simple wooden box strapped on to the tromatik. Even summer-time travel is not happy. The experiences of the nurses told by themselves are really thrilling. Extreme cold, battle against the stormy blast—it would be impossible to describe, or for us to realise, the cold, storms, snow and blizzards that they fought their way through.

"Morning after morning we were imprisoned in the Nursing Station until our faithful chore-boy arrived to dig us out. Yet in spite of almost continuous storms, there were very few days when we did not have patients calling, or I was travelling to see them. It was a trying winter for us, but how much more so for those who were poorly clad and were trying to exist mostly on bread, margarine, tea and molasses. . . . How imperative it is to

get the people to understand the necessity of starting vegetable gardens!"

From all the stations the splendid courage and initiative of the nurses is most inspiring. We advise those comfortably at home to procure "Nursing in Labrador"; to study it and realise that the valour of the British race still pertains in the uttermost parts of the earth. It is an uplifting story, and we thank God for it.

Miss Spalding, at 66, Victoria Street, S.W.1, and the Hon. Mrs. John Scott Maclay, 21, Bothwell Street, Glasgow, C.2, will be pleased to supply copies of this inspiring leaflet also please procure the postcards.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRONS.

St. George's Infirmary, Rothwell, near Leeds.—Miss O. M. Copeland, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford, where she has since been Theatre Staff Nurse, Ward Sister, Night Sister, Relief Administrative Sister, and Sister Tutor. Miss Copeland has also been Ward Sister and Relief Sister in Charge of the Convalescent Home, Royal Infirmary, Oldham, and took the Housekeeping Training of the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.

Yeatman Hospital, Sherborne, Dorset.—Miss O. E. Elgar S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich, where she was later Ward Sister, Out-Patient Sister and Home Sister; and has also been Assistant Matron at the Hemel Hempstead E.M.S. Base Hospital. Miss Elgar holds a Housekeeping Certificate, and took Maternity Training.

Woking War Hospital.—Miss B. Coyle, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at St. Giles' Hospital, Camberwell, where she was later Staff Nurse, Staff Midwife, and Relief Sister. Miss Coyle has also been Ward Sister and Assistant Matron at Warren Road Hospital, Guildford.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital, Aylesbury.—Miss Elsie Warr, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at St. Cross Hospital, Rugby, where she was later Theatre Sister, and has been Ward Sister and Administrative and Office Sister at the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital, Ipswich; Theatre Sister at the Princess Louise Hospital for Children, Kensington; Senior Night Sister at the South London Hospital for Women, London; and Assistant Matron and Housekeeping Sister at the North Suffolk Hospital, Lowestoft.

City Mental Hospital, Fulford, York.—Miss A. T. Baron, S.R.N., R.M.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Halifax General Hospital, and has been Night Sister, Sister Tutor, Ward Sister, and Assistant Matron at the Sunderland Mental Hospital.

ASSISTANT MATRON AND HOME SISTER.

Hull Royal Infirmary.—Miss F. Purvis, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron and Home Sister. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and has been Medical Ward Sister at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast; Assistant Matron at the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children and Women, London; and Housekeeping Sister at the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

HOME SISTER:

St. James's Hospital, Leeds.—Miss Elizabeth Cleary, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Junior Home Sister. She was trained at the City Hospital, Nottingham, where she was later Staff Nurse, Ward Sister and Night Sister. Miss Cleary has also been Relief Administrative Sister at the Derbyshire Sanatorium, Chesterfield, and holds the Housekeeping Certificate of the Women's Hospital, Liverpool.

SISTER TUTOR.

Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Royal Hospital.—Miss H. A. Van der Vlies, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Sister Tutor. She was trained at Whipp's Cross Hospital, Leytonstone, where she was Silver Medallist, and where she was later Ward Sister. Miss Van der Vlies has also been Sister Tutor, Preliminary Training School, St. Andrew's Hospital, London; and Second Sister Tutor at the Central Middlesex County Hospital. She holds the Sister Tutor's Diploma (First Class) of the Battersea Polytechnic. Miss Van der Vlies is of Dutch origin, and is now naturalised as a British subject.

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