

the balance, may be handled and cared for in the supremely important hours between the time when their wounds are received, and the time when they reach the base hospital, by young women who are untrained, and whose age according to the regulations should not be less than seventeen.

"In our opinion, from the time the wounded arrive at the clearing hospitals, until they cease to be under medical care, they should be attended by thoroughly qualified nurses, and as expressed in the Resolution of the National Council of Trained Nurses, the standard of such nursing should be the best a grateful nation can provide."

Another complaint stated is the use of the trained nurses uniform by the Voluntary Aid Detachment members, not only when on duty as nurses, but when employed as cooks, orderlies, hall porters and so on. Practical suggestions were made by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick at the end of the statement and appendices forwarded giving instances, and evidence of the truth of the statements. We hope that this outspoken, fearless, and well thought out statement, which is in every way most reasonable, and merely demands for our soldiers the care they have a right to expect, has already borne fruit, as we hear that the staffs of voluntary hospitals have been reorganised and many recalled.

## Notes from the "British Journal of Nursing"

*December 19.*

We feel sure New Zealand Nurses will rejoice to learn that the four "registered" New Zealand nurses working under the French Flag Nursing Corps, have won high praise from their superiors. Sisters Lind and Hitchcock have gained respect at Rouen, and Sister Cooke and Eaddy, we learn are very much liked in their "services" at Bernay, and it is not improbable that the former will be made *Infirmiere Major*, as her doctor thinks very highly of her work.

An interesting letter from Sister Ella Cooke who was trained at the Auckland Hospital, is published in another column.

Some of the French Flag Nursing Corps the Grey's unit, are now to be moved from Havre to Dunkirk to nurse the enteric cases, "where there are as many as 200 patients attended by one nun, and some orderlies. The patients are allowed to get up to the night stools, even cases of haemorrhage."

It is added that there are as many as 20 to 30 deaths a day.

The French Ministry is favourable to the proposal to move up nearer the front those nurses who have proved their worth at the base, many of whom have not only gained the confidence of the Medical Officers, but have so applied themselves to learning the language that many now speak French very fairly and are therefore doubly useful.

Later.—We read now that nurses Lind and Hitchcock are among the nurses moved up to the front.

*January 30.*

For some weeks past enteric has had a grip of the French and Belgian soldiers at the front, and great suffering has resulted from a lack of a sufficient supply of trained nurses. Now these cases are being drafted in great numbers to the base hospitals in France, and nurses working in French hospitals can no longer complain that they have nothing to do. We fear this terrible disease has got a bad hold of the troops of our Allies, and we are thankful to know that an increasing number of English nurses are now engaged battling with its ravages, both at the front and at the base.

In addition to the units of the French Flag Nursing Corps, composed of about eighteen nurses, sent to Dunkirk and elsewhere recently to nurse French soldiers suffering from enteric fever, we learn that Miss Edith Gregory (*Bart.'s League*), is there, battling almost single-handed in a hospital containing several hundred beds with an overwhelming number of these sufferers. Arrangements are most primitive—the poor patients having to get up themselves, and wrap their cold pack sheets around their burning bodies. How is it that such conditions can be? Surely our funds for sick and wounded are sufficiently munificent to have spared the cost of fifty English nurses to help combat this epidemic of enteric amongst the French troops. Action, we are glad to learn, is now being taken by the Friends Ambulance Unit to start a Fever Hospital at Dunkirk; and we hear it is probable that