

When a push is expected all the hospitals are evacuated, and as it is not then possible for patients to remain there for long we got a number of very recent cases. Once we were given orders to evacuate and prepare for a convoy of wounded from the Front; one of those who arrived was practically blind, and he died shortly afterwards in his own home.

I am taking back a Mons light, which I hope will prove a great help toward relieving pain, also a Vibrator; this is useful in breaking up adhesions and treating many other things. Some friends are kindly donating a Violet Ray, which I expect to find useful. Many sad cases of shell shock have shown rapid improvement at the Home under our treatment. Not the least part of these benefits is due to Miss Gaviller's success in the house-keeping.

It may interest you to know a few of the privileges allowed to nurses in France. If a sister is ill and the M.O. decides that she must go into hospital and have a good rest, she is taken to a large British General Hospital in the vicinity and is placed in the wing allotted to sick sisters; after she has recovered sufficiently to travel arrangements are made for her to be sent to a most comfortable Nurses' Convalescent Home, organized, supported and run by Lady Gifford. She may remain for a few weeks. If it is during the winter she goes to the South of France to a Home under the Red Cross or to another branch of Lady Gifford's Home which is open during that season. As well as provision being made for the sick every care is taken of the Overseas sisters when on leave; if they choose they may avail themselves of Queen Mary's Hostel for Nurses at 40 Bedford Place in London, which is under Mrs. Kerr-Lawson, whose husband is an Honorary Major in the Canadian Army. He is an artist and does special work at the Front. It is a delightful house to stay in; it does not feel like an institution and may be described as a home in the true sense. On leaving France one is always given a note to Mrs. Kerr-Lawson from Headquarters, which is a form of introduction necessary to present on arriving. No one is allowed to pay anything beyond leaving tips in the servants' bag in the hall. As a rule one only remains a few days en route to wherever one is going to spend one's leave, but if it should happen that a Canadian, an Australian or a New Zealander has no friends in England she may spend a delightful leave at the Hostel or at some house in the country arranged by Mrs. Kerr-Lawson.

One of the chief advantages of being under the Red Cross is, that if a member of our Staff leaves hurriedly, as was the case when Miss Chadwick (to our deep regret) was recalled owing to private affairs, we were able to wire to Headquarters, and in the space of a day or so have her replaced by a V.A.D. or sister. Once or twice Mrs. Robinson has been glad to be able to apply to them when urgent affairs called her away, and it has always proved up to the present a most satisfactory arrangement.