

All For The Cause

Among the six Granville Nursing Sisters who left just before Christmas for the 2nd Canadian General Hospital, at Le Treport, France, none will be missed more than Sister Murray, from Ward I.

Two days later her brother, Corp. Murray, with three gold stripes on his sleeve, left the Granville to return to his battery at the front.

And this brother and sister, on their way back to the front, are all that remain of the family of Colonel Murray, now of Toronto, formerly colonel of the Royal Highlanders (Black Watch). Two of his sons lie buried in the Salient; two others made the supreme sacrifice on the Somme; while his younger daughter was killed by a shell while on duty as a nurse in a Belgian Clearing Station. And now the two Murrays that remain go forward to carry on the family contribution to the finish.

"Doing their bit" is altogether inadequate to describe such a record. And the Scotch Murrays set the higher standard of "doing their utmost."

Identifying The Dead.

It was when the little papier-mâché disc was issued to him just before his draft left for France, that many a Canadian realised for the first time that no return tickets were guaranteed on the trip to the front. Most of us hadn't been in France long before we had exchanged neck pendants for stamped chain bracelets. It is interesting to note how the other nations at war identify their dead.

The German soldier carries a little metal disc which bears merely his number. This number is telegraphed to Berlin, and the fallen soldier's name and address are determined from the War Office records. The Austrians wear a gun metal badge in the form of a locket with parchment leaves inside.

The French used to employ metal identification badges, but these proved such irresistibly attractive souvenirs to the natives whom the French fought in Morocco and Nigeria, that the authorities substituted identification cards stitched inside the tunic. The Russian soldier wears a numbered badge, which also serves as a charm, having been previously blessed by the priests. The Japanese infantryman has chances of being identified, even if blown into three pieces, for he wears one disc around his neck, another on his belt, and a third in his boot.

Of the nations at war, Turkey alone has no identification system for her soldiers. Edhem Pasha summed up the Ottoman attitude when he said: "A dead man is of no use to the Sultan, why therefore, trouble with him?"