

Orange Free State, are in many instances so urgent, that prompt assistance is imperative. A strong central committee is being formed at Cape Town composed of representatives from all the principal places to which refugees resort, which will undertake the distribution of relief through local committees. Donations may be sent to the Secretary's Office at the Mansion House; to the Bank of England; to Messrs. Prescott, Dimsdale, Cave, Tugwell, & Co., Ltd., of 50, Cornhill, E.C., or any of their Branches; to the London and County Banking Company, Limited, 21, Lombard Street, E.C., or its Branches; to the Bank of Africa, Limited, 113, Cannon Street, E.C.; to Lloyds Bank, Limited, 72, Lombard Street, E.C., and its Branches; to the African Banking Corporation, Limited, 43, Threadneedle Street, E.C.; or to the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, 10, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street. Cheques should be crossed "Bank of England," and made payable to the "Transvaal Refugees' Fund."

THE HOSPITAL SATURDAY FUND.

LAST Saturday collections were widely made on behalf of the Hospital Saturday Fund, and it is satisfactory to know that since the abandonment of the street collection—a course which received wide-spread approval—the regular collections in workshops and places of business have steadily increased, and that it is hoped that by the end of the present year the loss entailed will be more than made up. The work undertaken by the Fund, in addition to the collection of money in small regular sums from the working classes, has been to supply surgical appliances to patients who need them; to send convalescents to homes upon their paying part of the cost; and, in more recent years, to form ambulance classes for the instruction of men and women in places of business where accidents are likely to occur, and the supply of ambulance boxes to enable those who hold the certificate of the St. John's Ambulance Association to render first aid. This is a most useful branch of the work of the Saturday Fund, and one which will doubtless continue to be appreciated. It is noteworthy that during last year the considerable amount of £17,030 was distributed by the Hospital Saturday Fund among the medical charities of London.

HEALTH VISITORS.

THE fact that the Local Government Board has declined to sanction at Limehouse the

appointment of a lady sanitary inspector, because it was intended that she should instruct the women in their own houses on the feeding and rearing of infants, is regarded with great concern by those who are in a position to know how much work is needed in this direction, and how much may be done by a qualified woman during house to house visitation. Miss Alice Busk, member of the Vestry of S. George the Martyr, Southwark, states that those who, like herself, are members of a sanitary authority in a poor part of London, know that many lives could be saved by such teaching. She had hopes, which have not been fulfilled, that the Technical Education Board of the London County Council would have given some health visitors to poorer London, but the majority of the members voted against the experiment. The Provinces are ahead of London in this respect, for Birmingham has its regular health visitors, Liverpool employs eight Lady Sanitary Inspectors, whose duty consists in part in giving instruction in the feeding of children; and the Ladies' Health Society, which has been working for nearly forty years in Manchester and Salford, has twenty-three health visitors at work, thirteen of these being maintained out of public funds, and the remainder by voluntary subscription. In the poorer parts of London, where they are most needed, it is impossible to raise subscriptions to pay health visitors; it is to be hoped, therefore, that the Local Government Board may reverse its decision, and make it possible for this most useful work to be carried out by certified sanitary inspectors.

AN EXCELLENT SCHEME.

THE Guardians of St. Giles, Camberwell, are advertising for foster mothers for the children under their care. They have decided to adopt the course of reverting to the home system, instead of sending the children to barrack schools, and are so far pleased with the experiment. Each foster mother will, in addition to her board and lodging, receive a salary of £30 per annum, and will be responsible for the care of a dozen or so children in homes away from the workhouse. There is no doubt that this plan is infinitely preferable to congregating children together in large schools, if the right type of woman is found to mother them. If other Boards of Guardians follow the excellent example of Camberwell, new openings for useful and interesting work will be afforded which might well be filled by educated women.

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