

THE TEMPERANCE HOSPITAL.—The Board of Management of the London Temperance Hospital has, owing to the increased demand upon its resources, undertaken to build a new out-patients' department at a cost of £10,000, of which about £2,250 has been subscribed. At a meeting in support of the movement, Sir George Livesey, presiding, said all friends of temperance must work together to raise the money to carry out the much-needed extension. The Rev. Silvester Horne said he regarded the hospital as the culmination of the temperance argument. It was a practical demonstration, which could not be overcome, showing that alcohol was not necessary for the recovery of health. Miss Richardson, chief of the nursing staff, had, it was stated, been presented with a gold medal in recognition of her ten years' service at the hospital. A resolution was carried declaring that the practice of the institution in treating medical and surgical cases without the ordinary use of alcohol had been fully justified and had strengthened the scientific lessons of the temperance reformation.

"THE HOME OF PEACE."—The annual report of the Friedenheim Hospital, Upper Avenue Road, Swiss Cottage, for the year 1903 draws attention to one of the most pathetic charities in London. The object is "to provide the best nursing and medical treatment for persons in the last stages of illness whose insufficient means and friendless condition prevent their being properly cared for to the end." The hospital, it is added, is not intended for chronic invalids, not for the aged and infirm, but for men, women, and children whose advanced disease renders them ineligible for admission or retention by the general hospitals. During the past year 187 patients have been under care, and of these no fewer than ninety-eight passed away. There was a large falling-off in the receipts both as regards legacies, donations, and patients' payments, the last-named owing to the temporary closing of the private wards. At the same time a larger outlay was necessary. The expenditure exceeded the income by £821 19s. 1d., and there is at the present time due to the builders a sum of £1,100, which must be paid.

A NEW NURSING HOME.—Lady Pollock has forwarded to the Shottermill Nursing Association the sum of £1,000, given by an anonymous donor towards the establishment of a Nursing Home for the district, which adjoins the town of Haslemere.

A GIFT TO THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.—Dr. G. Oliver, of Harrogate, has presented to the Royal College of Physicians, of which he is a Fellow, £2,000 for the endowment of a lectureship or prize in memory of the late William Sharpey, Professor of Physiology in University College, London.

THE TABLOID CASE.—A short time since we recorded at length the hearing of the action brought by Messrs. Burroughs and Wellcome against Messrs. Thompson and Capper. The former firm claimed the exclusive right to the word "Tabloid" as indicating compressed drugs and medicines of their manufacture, and judgment was given in favour of this claim. The defendants appealed; but on the appeal being heard Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Stirling, and Cozens-Hardy upheld the judgment of the Court below, and it was accordingly dismissed with costs.

Women's Part in the Care of Sick and Wounded Soldiers.*

The mass of information which Dr. Colomb has collected in relation to military nursing in different countries of the world will be welcomed by those who study the organisation of military nursing and nurses from a broad standpoint. The introduction to this volume (which is written in French) was recently reviewed in these columns. The first country dealt with is Germany, which, in view of the coming Congress, is interesting to nurses at the present time. From Dr. Colomb's treatise we gain the following information:

GERMANY.

In Germany there was founded in 1866 the Patriotic Society of German Women of the North, a movement which has spread slowly to all the German States. The Empress Augusta was the powerful and indefatigable inspirer of this movement during the Bohemian war. Similar societies were rapidly formed which understood the necessity of providing skilled nurses in time of war, when civilised nations were, by the Geneva Convention, accorded the right to protect those who cared for the sick and wounded on the battlefield.

These various societies, which each had their own sphere of work, including those of Baden, Bavaria, Berlin, Darmstadt, Dresden, Carlsruhe, Munich, and the Grand Duchy of Hesse, were united in 1869 under a Central Committee of the German Red Cross.

The Committee took immediate steps to educate nurses capable of giving efficient service to the sick and wounded with armies in the field, for former wars had revealed the insufficiency of a qualified staff for such a work. Local sections were charged with raising a certain number of ambulance nurses, who in time of peace should care for the sick in hospitals and private houses, and who at the first signal would be ready to take up their special work. During the period of peace between the war with Bohemia and the war with France these local societies attached to the Red Cross made use of the opportunity to strengthen the bonds which united them, and to assure the co-operation of personal devotion and skilled knowledge in the care of the sick and wounded on the part of the *personnel*. Thus Germany had profited by past experience, and was not taken unawares in 1870. On the day following the declaration of war, 2,000 committees were at work in touch with the Central Committee in Berlin, and rivaling one another in the organisation of help. They spared no effort, no personal sacrifice, to mitigate the horrors of war, and the women who had prepared themselves to nurse the sick and wounded were thoroughly qualified for the work. The reason of the efficiency of this service was its powerful and well-governed organisation.

The fact that Germany had shown its ability to provide competent nurses gave great importance to this institution after peace was signed. The Red Cross Society redoubled its efforts, and, in conjunction with the military authorities, trained a great number of nurses. In 1901 the Central Committee had at its disposal in case of war 1,577 nurses (880 Red Cross Sisters, 541 deaconesses, and 466 other nurses). These nurses, who are by regulation at the disposal of the State, can be summoned by telegram in case of war, and

* By Dr. Roger Colomb, Bordeaux.

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