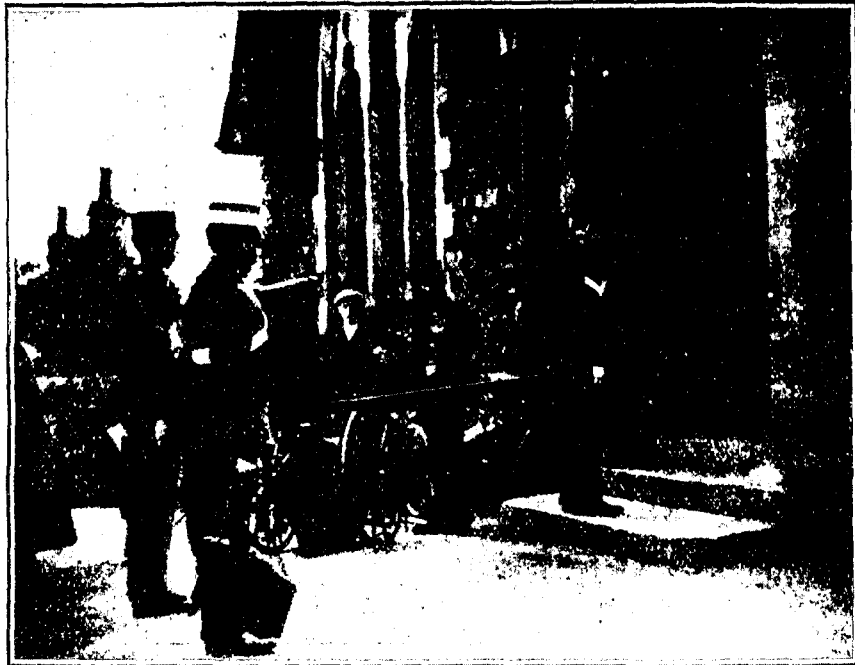
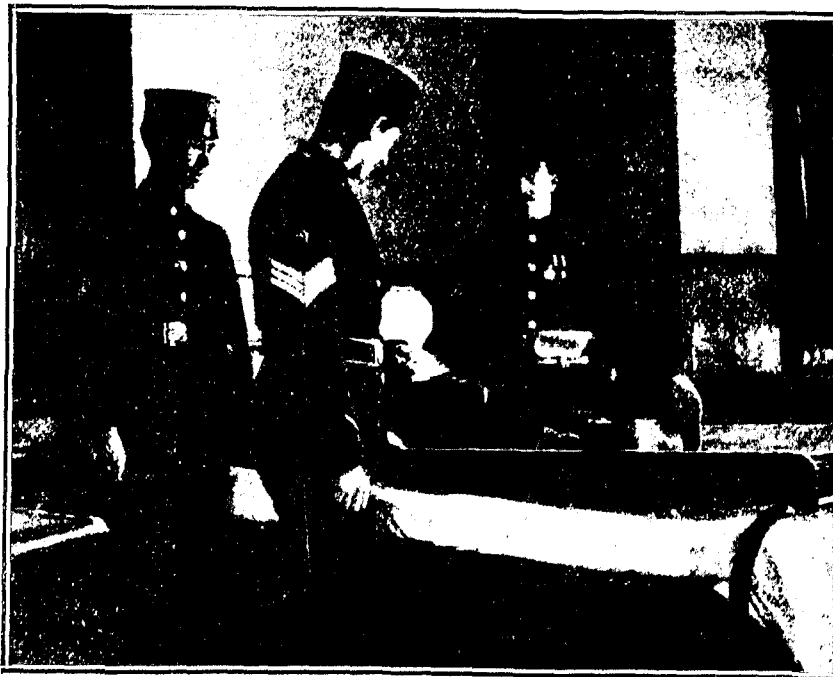


ambulance brigade will end at the receiving-room; porters do the rest. But see what a lot of extra labour their skill saves the nurses in a small hospital where porters are not, and they are so incredibly smart and deft and neat over their work, both in the wards and in their bandaging and first aid. Tourniquets are always well put on, splints where they should be, bandages and dressings intelligently applied. Sometimes, in cases of machinery accidents, &c., the case is taken directly into the theatre, or surgery, as it is called in this little hospital. The thoughtful telephone from the ambulance superintendent has given the nurses time to prepare it, and instruments are sterilised, the dressing wagon is ready, a fire is lighted, and the operating table uncovered and ready with a blanket and hot-water bottles. But it is not always with accidents and injuries that an ambulance has to deal. There is, say, a case of sickness, serious sickness, in a cottage many miles out in the heart of the mountain country, which the doctor wishes, as giving a better

chance of recovery, to bring into the hospital. The ambulance corps undertakes its removal, which they accomplish with as little pain and fatigue to the patient as skill and training make possible. They will use a canvas stretcher, slip it under their patient (who is warmly rolled in rugs and blankets), and, probably, instead of attaching it to the poles, they will use the slings attached to its sides (three a side), and six bearers will carry it out to the horse ambulance, which will take them, often many miles, to the town and hospital. Sometimes, too, they will go twenty miles or more to fetch an accident to the hospital. It means the loss of a whole day's work to the squad that undertakes the work, but they do it willingly and cheerfully. It will be seen from these little notes that a well-trained ambulance corps is indeed a boon, alike to patients, those who meet with accidents, and nurses. There must be many deaths every year from lack of proper first aid, or aid wrongly given. Thus it is the duty of every citizen, whose tastes lie that way, to qualify himself as best he may to render such aid to the sick and injured as skilfully as may be, or by his gifts to enable others to do so.



THE STRETCHER CARRIED INTO HOSPITAL BY TWO BEARERS.



THE STRETCHER LAID ON BED.

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