

## LORD MAYOR TRELOAR'S CRIPPLES' HOSPITAL AND COLLEGE, ALTON, HANTS.

An invitation to view this institution means enjoyment, education, liberal hospitality and thankfulness. Thankfulness for the inspiration of a good man, who conceived the idea of so beneficent a scheme, and who has, by his energy and prodigality, made it so great a success. The splendid work achieved is shown by the fact that since the foundation in 1908 no less than 495 children have been discharged *cured*. It is claimed that no similar institution in the world can claim, as this one does, 90 per cent. of cures. Sir William Treloar, during his year of office at the Mansion House, made a very successful appeal for help to found a hospital for children suffering from the sadly common complaint known as surgical tuberculosis. The appeal was made at the psychological moment, for at that time the Princess Louise Hospital, which had formerly served for convalescent soldiers after the Boer War, had become vacant. The Government made a present of the whole estate, consisting of 68 acres, with its buildings and plant to Sir William and his trustees for the purpose which it has so admirably served. This group of bungalows is situated in the most beautiful country, on a gently sloping hill facing south.

About 169 invited guests boarded a special train from Waterloo on June 29th. Upon arrival we formed ourselves into small parties and were "personally conducted" over every department of this institution by nurses wearing a distinguishing mark for our guidance. Everything we saw was deeply interesting and, for those who had eyes to see, very instructive. The wards are built in two groups of ten, in semi-circular formation; each

ward is a separate building, connected by outside corridors. The spinal cases were all treated with the swing "back-door" splint, which provides twofold extension by placing the head and legs lower than the trunk. The treatment for surgical tuberculosis is necessarily long; the average length of stay at this hospital is 405 days. The injection of bismuth into the spine in cases of tubercular sinus is largely used here.

Sad as the sight is, of so many little children strapped down upon mechanical beds in unnatural positions, yet the compensating factors loom so large, showing the gain all on their side, that there is not much room left for sadness of thought

when one realizes that almost every one of them is on the high and straight road to complete recovery. The hospital, which is the largest of its kind in the United Kingdom, will accommodate 220 children, and every bed is always occupied. The Matron has under her charge a staff of about sixty nurses and ten sisters.

### THE COLLEGE.

This is not the least important part of the scheme. It exists for

the object of giving industrial training to crippled boys between the ages of fourteen and eighteen, to enable them to earn their own living. Accommodation is afforded to sixty boys, who are being taught leather work, boot making and tailoring—according to their inclination and ability. They do not leave until they have become proficient in their trade and able to earn good wages.

One of the most interesting features of the institution is the "Observation Wards." Their purpose is best described by quoting the words of one of the authorities:—Here patients on admission are treated in quarantine for a period of at least one fortnight; each patient occupies a separate cubicle; during his stay in this cubicle he is gradually acclimatized, his case is worked up, notes written and appropriate splints manufactured



THE OPEN AIR TREATMENT FOR CRIPPLES,  
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