

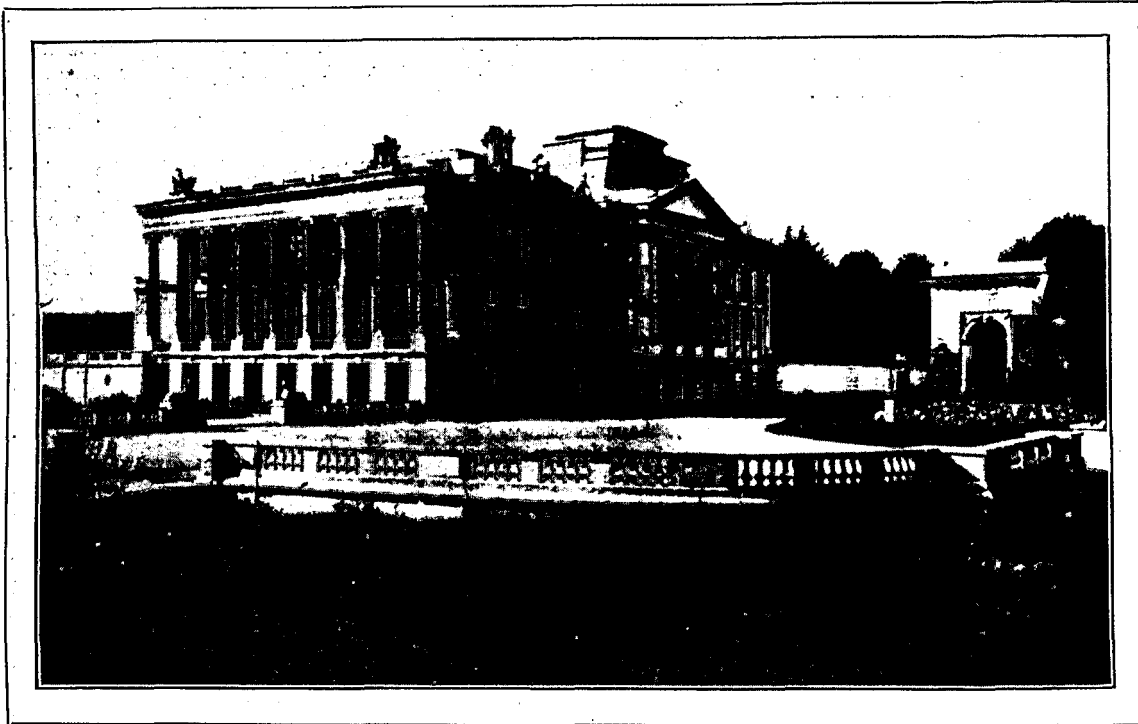
THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S HOSPITAL, PAIGNTON.

The American Women's Hospital, at Oldway House, Paignton—the princely gift of Mr. E. Paris Singer, who also acts as organizing manager to the Committee—is a stately house, capable of accommodating 200 or more patients, with a superb view over Torbay, and out over the English Channel, where—on a fair day—the blue sea contrasting vividly with the warm red of the cliffs, rivals in colour that of the Italian Riviera.

Arriving at the hospital, I was most courteously received by the Matron, Miss Gertrude Fletcher, who was trained at the Royal Prince Alfred

centre would have been wasted had this plan been adopted. Ultimately it was decided to have three rows—one against the blank wall, and the other two placed head to head down the middle of the ward, but divided by a low partition made in sections which are easily removable, and raised two feet from the ground so as to allow of free ventilation while affording the necessary privacy. The French windows open on to a wide balcony, on to which patients can readily be wheeled, and affording a view over the bay and surrounding country bewildering in its beauty.

Connected with the ballroom by a short staircase is the musicians' gallery, at present utilized for the storage of splints, crutches, bed rests, and other necessary appliances.



AMERICAN WOMEN'S HOSPITAL, OLDWAY HOUSE, PAIGNTON.

Hospital, Sydney, under Miss McGahey; and who has had a variety of experience, including that of war nursing during the South African campaign. Ascending the beautiful marble stair-case, the centre of which has been now covered with wood, as the polished marble proved dangerously slippery, in the every-day work of a hospital, we paused to admire an arresting picture by David, of the coronation of Maria Louisa, the second wife of Napoleon I, a counterpart of one in the Louvre by the same artist. Thence, we went to the ball-room, now utilized as a ward. The placing of the beds caused much consideration, for, on the window side they could not be conveniently placed in the spaces between the windows; besides, the room is very wide, and much floor space in the

Some of the rooms used as wards are circular in shape, and the effect is excellent. They are, moreover, without the central stove and shaft, which in many circular wards prevents the nurse from seeing all the patients at the same time—always a great disadvantage.

The men appear as happy as possible, and to judge from the sound of gramophones, to be heard in all directions, they must be recovering from their wounds and other ailments. I was assured, however, that they must be very ill indeed for the delights of a gramophone to pall upon them; indeed, one man, recovering from an anæsthetic, begged that a gramophone might be placed quite close to him. Another amusing incident was that the patients in one ward petitioned for

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