rankest weed would wither." But it has its compensations, amongst them the shelters given by many kind donors, where the convalescents can sit and smoke and talk at ease while enjoying the fresh breeze from the river and a view to delight the heart—from the Tower and Westminster in the foreground—from Highgate and Hampstead

to the uplands of Kent further afield.

Down again in a friendly lift, stopping on the first floor to peep into one of the rest rooms provided and arranged with kindly thought for the requirements of the soldier. Bright and pleasant places these rest rooms where a man can write to the old folks at home, smoke his pipe, read the paper, and receive his guests in comfort. Down once more to the ground floor where the orderlies have their quarters, and where we meet the Matron of this vast building, Miss M. E. Davies, who surveys her vast charge with serenity, and indeed by a wise delegation of duty each floor has its own Matron, responsible for its efficiency. Under Miss Davies' guidance we visit the basement, devoted to stores of all kinds, every foot of the acre and a half usefully occupied. The pack store—that essential in a military hospital—where all the clothes of each man are sent, washed, sterilized, mended, and in many instances replaced for the most part with new before he leaves. Then there are stores for hospital supplies, clean linen, bedding, groceries and bread, clothing and much besides. Here, also, is the hospital chapel capable of seating 250 people, its altar and dignified arrangements being due to the personal care of Adeline, Duchess of Bedford, while in the little mortuary chapel the cross is the gift of Queen Alexandra.

Her Majesty the Queen has not only given two beds to this hospital but sent the linen and blankets for them embroidered with her cypher.

This latest Red Cross Hospital is equipped by the Joint War Committee which also supplies and maintains the resident medical and nursing staff.

The Commandant, Colonel J. M. Irwin, M.B., A.M.S., is greatly to be congratulated on the arrangements of the hospital, for the work involved in its transformation must have been colossal.

## THE LADIES' LYCEUM CLUB ENTERTAIN GALLANT PROTECTORS.

The Executive Committee of the Ladies' Lyceum Club hope to arrange a series of teas and entertainments to amuse convalescent soldiers, by way of expressing gratitude and appreciation of their gallant protection. The first of these functions is arranged for Friday, July 16th, and the guests are to number fifty from various military hospitals. The tea is to be a feature, with a relish, and the hostesses will have the greatest pleasure in waiting on their guests. There is to be a band, and the programme arranged by Miss Marjorie Hamilton will be first rate. "Sister Susie," "Which switch Miss is the right switch for Ipswich," the "Echo Song" by the wonderful Maori chief,

and a humorous recitation by Miss Hamilton will be found on the programme.

## HOSTEL FOR WAR NURSES.

The Joint War Committee of the Red Cross and St. John of Jerusalem have accepted a Hostel for Nurses, to be opened at 1, Tavistock Square, W.C., on Monday, July 12th. The Queen has signified her intention of becoming patroness of the institution, and has sent a donation of £100; it is to be used as a guest house for nurses from the Colonies, during transit; and for the reception of nurses returning from the Front, or en route for the Seat of War. Public subscriptions are being invited in support of the Hostel; and the committee, of which the Duke of Portland is President; the Earl of Plymouth, Vice-President; Captain Harold Boulton and Sir Ernest Flower, Hon. Treasurers; and Mr. D. Harold Boulton, Hon. Secretary—is entirely composed of men; and we cannot refrain from expressing the opinion that, kind as the intentions of these gentlemen undoubtedly are, that in a committee organizing a Guest House for trained nurses should not include a home for women, of so intimate and domestic a nature there should be women on the committee of management. It seems incredible that the expert knowledge of women on its board of management.

## THE CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

Major L. Haden Guest, R.A.M.C., is to be the resident Military Commandant of the new Hospital for Wounded Officers, which is placed in the Endsleigh Palace Hotel, Euston. The nursing staff will consist of thirty trained nurses, assisted by male orderlies.

The Commander-in-Chief and Adjutant to the King of Serbia, in letters to Mr. James Berry, F.R.C.S., states that he has learnt with the greatest satisfaction that there exists in the hospitals at Vrnjatchka Banja wonderful degree of order and cleanliness, and that the soldiers who have the good fortune to be under treatment in these hospitals receive extraordinary care and every comfort. He has expressed to Mr. Berry and his He has expressed to Mr. Berry and his personnel heartfelt thanks in the name of the Serbian army and of the wounded and sick soldiers for all the services rendered. Mr. Berry reports that a definite assurance has been given him by the head of the Army Medical Department in Serbia that, if there is fresh fighting, seriously freshly wounded cases will be sent to the Anglo-Serbian Hospital. He adds: We have now built up a huge organisation of six separate hospitals in different parts of the town. We have an aggregate of over 300 beds, although at the present time only about 130 are occupied, as we are waiting for freshly wounded.

previous page next page