

these are succeeded by a faithful description of the hospitals at Bloemfontein they wake up, and cry out things about "one place and domains of art." There were two places, and I did justice to both. My domain was the Palace of Truth, and a very disagreeable place I have found it to date a public letter from."

Of transports we are told that they "constituted a grave indictment of the inspection before embarkation at home." Of the notorious Wood-stock Hospital that 'the Great Consultants who said everything was perfect could hardly have included it in their purview. They confined themselves to the 'Show Hospitals.'" These (No. 1, 2 and 3 General Hospitals) were "as good as a system which practically excludes female nursing, and is strangled by red tape, could make them . . . It was instructive to note that the degree of excellence respectively attained by these hospitals was in close ratio to the relative competence of their presiding or managing officers."

Mr. Burdett Coutts is strongly of opinion that the base hospitals should have practically ceased to be military institutions as soon as the pressure came. With a military officer, and small staff to carry on the necessary military relations, "these hospitals, so far as the real functions of a hospital properly so called is concerned, might have been turned at once into civil institutions, with civilian doctors, and an adequate civilian nursing staff. The military doctors and male staff (166 for each hospital of 520 patients) would have been thus set free to go up to the front, which is their proper place, and where they were grievously needed." The idea should be noted. It is, Mr. Burdett-Coutts believes, "the real germ of the reform of our army medical system in war time." The adjustment between the widely varying demands of peace and war depends upon a full and free acceptance in war time of civilian professional aid. This is worse than useless if it only takes the form of hastily employing so many hundred junior doctors and surgeons, or of placing men of experience and distinction in civil practice under professionally inferior army medical officers. In the nursing department the counterpart of this poor-expedient has been to hurry batches of nurses through the shadowy framework of an 'Army Nursing Reserve,' for the purpose, apparently, of bringing them under the control of the Army Medical Officer. In the future there must be a complete release to the civilian profession of the authority and management of base hospitals, and of stationary hospitals which are strategically secure, in respect of all their functions which appertain to the treatment of the sick and wounded as such."

The Government, Mr. Burdett-Coutts thinks, should at least partially assume the financial responsibility of these hospitals, which, being limited to the duration of the war, will place a far lighter burden on the State than the permanent maintenance of an overgrown army medical system. The reform which is sure to be demanded should be in the direction of quality rather than quantity. "Hypertrophy is the worst and most expansive disease that can afflict a Department." Under a carefully organised and elastic scheme of civilian aid the problem of an Army Medical Service would be solved. But it must be carried out by a strong hand, and "no departmental self sufficiency, no medical militarism must be allowed to oppose it. The soldier who risks his life for his country is the country's concern."

(To be continued.)

New Preparations, Inventions, etc.

HORLICK'S MALTED MILK.

Horlick's Malted Milk is a preparation the value of which should not be overlooked by invalids and brain workers. Few things can be more suitable for the little extra meals which are required by the convalescent to complete recovery than this preparation. Not the least point in its favour is the ease with which it may be prepared. The powder may either be given dry, in the form of a sandwich between bread and butter, or it may be dissolved by the addition of hot water, and taken as a beverage. To hard workers, a cupful of Malted Milk the last thing at night is most grateful and beneficial, and is certainly conducive to sleep. It is easily assimilated, as it is predigested and sterilized. If the slightly sweet taste of the milk is not liked it can be disguised by the addition of salt, or some condiment. All travellers should provide themselves with Horlick's Malted Milk, as, owing to its portability, its nutritive properties, and the fact that it is unaffected by climate, it is an invaluable addition to the kit bag. We feel sure that those who once try this preparation will not be without it in the future. A free sample may be obtained on application to Messrs. Horlick and Co., 34, Farringdon Road, London, E.C.

HAGEMANN'S COMPLETE COCOA.

Amongst the many cocoas which are now competing for the favour of the public our readers will be glad to know of one which only requires the addition of boiling water in its preparation, namely Hagemann's Complete Cocoa. The powder, from which all the fat is extracted, contains cocoa, milk, and sugar; the cocoa can therefore be prepared with a minimum amount of trouble, and the preparation has the further advantages that it is easily digested, and that in use it is very economical. The patentees and sole manufacturers are Messrs. Hagemann and Co., Ltd., York, who also have depots at Belfast, Rotterdam, Numegan, Brussels, Alost, and at Ashburton, New Zealand. We commend this preparation to the notice of our readers.

Messrs. BURROUGHS and WELLCOME'S PREPARATIONS.

The purity, portability, and convenience of the preparations of Messrs. Burroughs and Wellcome is so well known that they have their host of imitators. Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery, but it has its drawbacks, and, when the article imitated is good, and its copy is crude and impure, these become serious; further, when labels and packages are imitated for the purpose of deception, no one can justify

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