management of the scheme ought to be in the hands of the medical men and trained nurses.

The classes are to be given by doctors with, wherever possible, the assistance of nurses, and afterwards the supervision of the workers must also be in the hands of doctors and nurses who shall be responsible for the efficiency of the detachments. A trained nurse, not necessarily one in the actual practice of her profession, should control all the future organisation. She should be responsible to the doctor or doctors appointed, and should herself hold special classes for all the workers in the various detachments. Such a trained nurse, who might be called the District Superintendent, will in the event of war be attached to one temporary hospital, but otherwise her duties will be to supervise a district in which there may be several temporary hospitals. It would be well to limit her district to three divisions, over which she should have the control, and it should be her duty to see that the workers in these divisions are from time to time called out for practice.

PRACTICES.

At these practices or musters a doctor, or a nurse appointed by him, should be present to give advice. The District Superintendent should not have the power to call for divisional musters, but she should be notified of the intention to hold any such muster, and should whenever possible be present.

Lay persons in control of divisional detachments should in all cases of difficulty apply to the District Superintendent for advice.

COMMITTEES.

Divisional Committees should be formed of lay persons. It shall be the duty of these Committees to collect the necessary funds and also the supplies, appliances, bandages etc., as recommended by the District Superintendent. An accurate "roll" must be kept.

Efficiency.

Efficiency can only be guaranteed if the workers are continually reminded of and practice their duties. Musters should, therefore be held for

(a) Determining the length of time a detachment would take to collect at any given spot.

(b) Determining the best way to communicate with the individuals to be called out for practice.

It is suggested that Boy Scouts might be utilised for this purpose.

(c) The practice of individual duties.

KEEPING UP THE INTEREST.

With a very little trouble the practice of the various duties could be made interesting; and, in fact, they must be made interesting, or the

workers will cease to attend, and the scheme will fail. Boy Scouts could be utilised as "wounded." An imaginary battle could be arranged and the wounded brought by the stretcher bearers, horsed waggons, etc., to the "temporary hospital" or other temporary base. Here could be present the doctors and nurses, when further instruction could be given. Here also might be the cooks, porters, and other accessory officials, who should also receive their definite orders.

FREQUENCY AND CHARACTER OF MUSTERS.

It is suggested that these musters be held every two or three months. During the winter indoor meetings should be held and classes for invalid cooking arranged. During the winter, also, needlework may be done. Indoor musters held at different houses all round the division, so that people have not always a long way to go. Poultice making, putting a "wounded" Scout to bed, changing his sheets and many other things, which will occur at once to the mind of a trained person, can be practised. Thus, all will be kept efficient, and the work of the Voluntary Aid Detachments made enormously more valuable in the event of war.

SELF-CENTRED.

Every division, large or small, should be absolutely self-centred, and not until this is accomplished should any attempt be made at co-operation between divisions.

IDENTITY OF THE SCHEME IN ALL DIVISIONS.

Subject to density of population and some other considerations, the same scheme should be carried out in every division. Uniformity should be as complete as possible, as in this way only can efficiency be realised. Uniformity will also make it much easier for a worker changing from one division to another to take up the work which she will have already learned.

CHANGES IN THE SCHEME.

District Superintendents should meet from time to time for the interchange of ideas, and no District Superintendent should make any important alteration in the scheme unless it has been previously agreed to at a meeting.

Alterations or suggestions coming from Headquarters should be sent to the various District Superintendents. Lay Committees are again reminded that it is their duty to obtain the material, the volunteers, and the necessary funds. It is management of these various items that should be under the supervision of trained persons—i.e., the District Superintendents.

Below will be found an estimate of the numbers of workers required to deal with 100 wounded or sick men, together with a rough previous page next page