

landlady had taught me how poor a thing is man when he is a boarder; and how gracious and kind is woman when she takes in boarders. ("Takes in" may be read literally.) From her remarks I judged that about half of her past boarders were no good; the other half were wandering round the world singing her praises, and offering up continual prayers on her behalf. I offered up a few myself. Ah, well! If ever I am ill again I hope I shall be somewhere near the fringe of civilisation; then I might have a real poultice-slinger to look after me; or better still, go to hospital and have half-a-dozen at once. But I suppose in hospital they would not all be qualified; some would be 'prentice hands. In that case I could give them some valuable hints.

I remember once when we were up in the mountains one of our party took sick—got cold most likely, through sleeping in the open so many feet above sea-level. He had an uncanny craving for physic, was sure if he could get some he would be all right. We had run short of quinine, and having a bottle of Yorkshire Relish in the commissariat we mixed some pepper and a few other things with it and gave it to him in teaspoonful doses. It bucked him up in no time. You might try that on some of the victims in your hospital.

If I come across any more hints that may be of use to you I'll let you have them. Till then, farewell. Don't work too hard. It is bad manners to try to do all the work yourself. Let someone else do a bit.

Every your loving brother,

H.

BRITISH ORGANISATION FOR VOLUNTARY AID

The first meeting of the recently formed Advisory Committee to facilitate the working of the scheme for the organisation of voluntary aid was recently held at the War Office, the following members being present:—The Director-General Army Medical Service (Chairman), Lieut.-Colonels F. S. Maude and E. Eckersley (Secretary), representing the War Office; Sir Richard Temple and Colonel R. B. Colvin, representing the Council of County Territorial Associations; Sir Frederick Treves and Mr. A. A. Bowlby, representing the British Red Cross Society; and Colonel Sir George Beatson, representing the St. Andrew Ambulance Association.

LADY DUDLEY'S NURSING SCHEME.

At a public meeting held at Sydney, at which the Lord Mayor presided, Lord Dudley, Governor-General of Australia, Lord Chelmsford, Governor of New South Wales, Mr. Wade, Premier of New South Wales, Sir Samuel Griffiths, Chief Justice of Australia, and Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Poore, Commander-in-Chief on the Australian station, supported the Countess of Dudley's Bush Nursing Scheme as a memorial to King Edward, and requested the Lord Mayor to open a subscription list. We understand that the feeling in Australia is that only thoroughly trained nurses should be employed, and the Countess of Dudley well understands the importance of the three years' standard.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.

The result of the Debate on the Second Reading of the Women Suffrage Bill on Tuesday last was a majority of 145 in its favour, but the Bill was, nevertheless, throttled by the practical refusal of the Government to send it to a Grand Committee. The chief point of interest, as the outcome of the Debate, was the clear proof afforded that one sex cannot speak for, or legislate for, the other. To be most effectively presented women must plead their own cause.

The report has been issued of the Departmental Committee on the Employment of Children Act, 1903, and its recommendations as to child trading would prevent the making of loafers, and sweep away the "bandit life" of the street boy. Street trading by girls is considered the worst of moral risks. "There can be no doubt," says the report, "that large numbers of those who were once street traders drift into vagrancy and crime, and so far as girls are concerned there must be added to other evils an unquestionable danger to morals in the narrower sense. The evidence presented to us on this point was unanimous and most emphatic. Again and again persons specially qualified to speak assured us that when a girl took up street trading she almost invariably was taking a first step towards a life of immorality. On the physical side, the evidence, though not entirely unanimous, emphasises the obvious danger to health arising when children, and especially young girls, often very inadequately clothed, are exposed for long periods to inclement weather."

Miss Olive Hargreaves, who had been carrying on investigations at Sheffield, told the Committee it was quite a common thing for a boy or a girl to make 12s. a week. In most of the cases it was almost impossible to get to know what they did earn. When there was a big race on they would sell a good many papers, and it was a great temptation not to tell their mother what they had earned. These children lived in a state of glorified picnic, and indulged in such things as ice cream. They almost invariably finished the evening at a music-hall. They smoked a tremendous lot of cigarettes. That was specially so in the case of the girls, who would sometimes get through twelve cigarettes a day, and cigarettes of the poorest kind of cabbage-leaf. The report deserves careful study.

The organisers of the great suffrage demonstration of the Women's Social and Political Union, to take place in Hyde Park on Saturday, July 23rd, write to us that "We are very anxious to have a really good contingent of nurses. The public is very sympathetic to them, and is always impressed by the fact that so earnest and respected a body of workers should spare their very scant leisure in order to take part in the suffrage movement. The

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