

The Hospital World.

HOSPITAL WORK AMONG THE HOP-PICKERS.

A society which is doing good work amongst the hop-pickers who annually immigrate to the hop fields of Kent is the Church of England Mission

to the Hop-Pickers, founded as the Church of England Missionary Association for Hop-Pickers in 1877. Its object is to promote and foster mission and social work amongst hop-pickers, fruit-

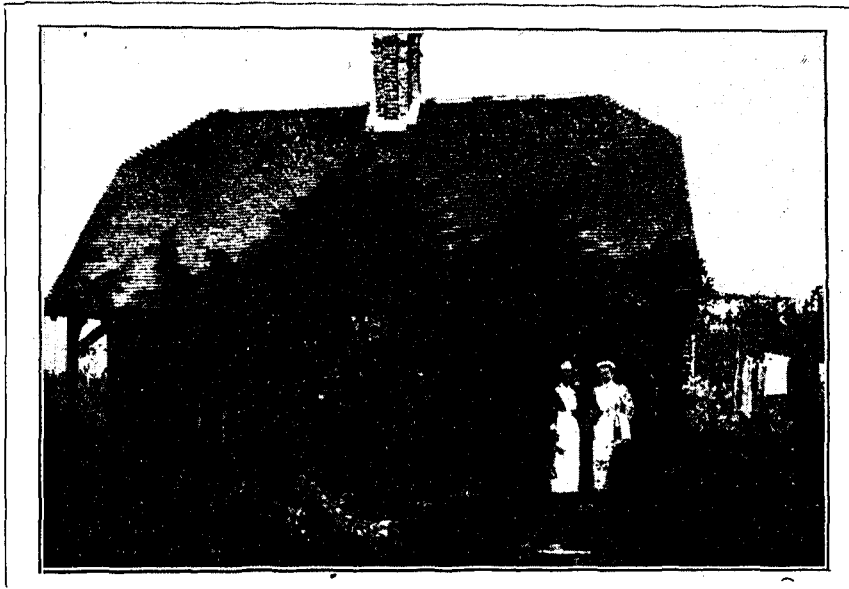
pickers, and others, and hospital and nursing work amongst these classes is an important item. The work of the Society, which is much appreciated by the pickers, is carried on largely by means of voluntary helpers. The Rector of Teston, near Maidstone, the Rev. Francis G. Oliphant, is the Hon. Secretary, and the 150 workers last year included 70 lay evangelists and male helpers, 52 lady workers, and 22 trained nurses, two of whom are on the staff of the Kent Nursing Institution.

The male helpers at East Farleigh last year included gentlemen who came from the great public schools of Eton and Winchester, and from Christ Church, Oxford Uni-

versity, who willingly devoted part of their vacation to this service, shared the lives of the hop-pickers, slept on the straw in tents and a hut, and cooked their food over the camp fires at night. The Vicar writes in the annual report that the life was full of difficulties and

discomforts, but the self-sacrifice of it appealed to the pickers when they found their helpers and friends living under the same conditions as themselves.

The Christ Church, Oxford, East Popular Mis-



A LITTLE HOPPERS' HOSPITAL AT WATERINGBURY.

sion also had a marquee at Peckham.

The number of immigrants in this village

last year was 4,500, and the nurses were more busy than usual. Miss McLeish, an Army Sister, and Matron of a hospital in Africa, was kept busy from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Miss Hexford had few idle moments.

At Paddock Wood, where the immigrants numbered 10,000, a lady doctor and two nurses attended to sickness and accidents, and an illustration on this page shows the doctor in the dispensary with a patient. The doctor and nurses paid



LADY DOCTOR WITH PATIENT IN DISPENSARY, PADDOCK WOOD.

over 600 visits during the three weeks of hop-picking.

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