

A NURSING HOME IN THE WEST.

The Rev. W. G. Boyd, who is in charge of the Mission at Edmonton, Canada, carried on by the Archbishops' Western Canada Fund, has a very



THE STAFF AT THE NURSING HOME.

interesting article in last week's *Canada*, the London illustrated weekly, from which we are by the courtesy of the editor permitted to quote, and make use of blocks—in which he tells how one of the most difficult problems of the West—the provision of nursing accommodation is being tackled. Mr. Boyd writes:—

"The pioneer expects hardship and glories in it. But there is one form of hardship which he dreads and which calls forth our keen sympathy; that is the difficulty and sometimes the impossibility of obtaining the help of medical or nursing skill in case of accident or sickness. Where he has wife and children with him this hardship fills his mind at times with haunting care.

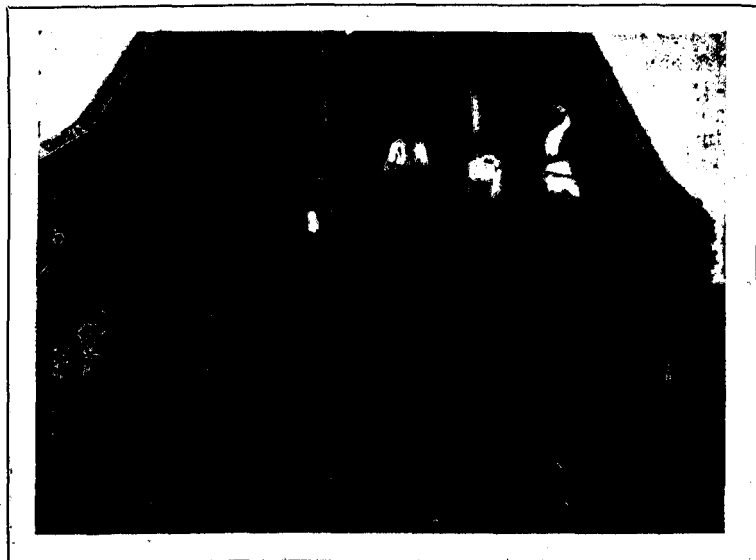
"The settler of to-day over many a vast area of the West is scarcely more fortunate in this regard than the pioneer of earlier days. Doctors are provided by the railways and contractors for the men engaged in the construction of the railroads; doctors settle in the little towns that spring up along the railways; but very rarely, if ever, is a nurse or doctor to

be found in the country districts. In the area entrusted by the Bishop of Calgary to the Edmonton Mission, reaching roughly 200 miles from east to west and seventy miles from north to south, there is not a single authorised medical practitioner, except along the two railways, the one running on the south and the other on the east side of this parallelogram. Anyone who knows anything of the life of the homesteading population knows how much unnecessary suffering and how much harassing anxiety and how often loss of life are involved in this state of things."

Mr. Boyd tells of sad tragedies resulting to mothers in their time of need from lack of skilled care—he tells of two nurses who were recently paying a visit to friends in the district—they were out for a holiday, but they were scarcely ever without a call for nursing care. The need of medical and skilled nursing in homesteading districts is urgent, and the generosity of a lady in England who has undertaken to provide the stipends of two nurses for at least a year made it possible for an experiment to

be made in connection with the Edmonton Mission last August, when St. Barnabas Nursing Home was opened at Onoway, forty miles west of Edmonton, by Miss Pinkham, the daughter of the Bishop of Calgary.

In a pretty situation on the side of a hill, a frame building on a concrete basement has been



NURSES HELPING WITH THE MISSION FARM HAY.

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