

THE WORK OF THE SALVATION ARMY SLUM SISTERS.

With the object of giving to the friends of the Salvation Army some report of the work of the Slum Sisters, and of arousing further knowledge of its needs, a very interesting programme was provided and well carried out at the Headquarters of the work, 280, Mare Street, Hackney, N.E., on Tuesday, May 26th, commencing with lunch in the large Hall. The flags of many nations

which decorated the walls emphasised the world-wide scope of the work. A considerable number of guests had availed themselves of the hospitable invitation. The long tables were gay with flowers, and the generous fare was enjoyed to the accompaniment of soft music. Commissioner Adelaide Cox, leader of the Women's Social Work in Great Britain and Ireland, gave a most cordial welcome to all present, and introduced two ladies—old friends of the Army—who made short speeches. Mrs. George Cadbury, of Bournville, and Mrs. Ormiston Chant spoke in terms of the greatest admiration, respect, and gratitude of the work and the workers of the Army. The latter spoke reminiscently of the past, and reminded her hearers that in early days of this splendid organisation, one of the female officers had been sentenced to imprisonment for no worse offence than "banging a tambourine" in the street. When we compare this with cases in the present day, of real and horrible offences, when the accused is not infrequently acquitted! one's blood gets hot in one's veins.

After lunch, private motor buses took parties

to inspect the different departments of work in operation. "The Mother's Hospital" is a perfectly new building, only opened last October. It forms a new departure in hospital construction, built on the bungalow principle. There are four bungalows connected by a long corridor, open at the sides. Each one is complete in itself, containing twelve beds in two or three small wards; an excellent up-to-date labour ward, bath room, linen room, kitchen, &c. So fresh and new and clean did everything look, and so bright and cheerful the mothers with their babes in the cots

at their sides, one felt how fortunate they were to have come under such tender care.

"The Nest"—a home for children—made the strongest but addest appeal to the heart; all these little ones, the youngest only three years old, had been "wronged"! These poor little victims are kept here until the age of sixteen, when they are placed in situations.

The Nest holds fifty of these much-to-be congratulated children.

The "Mother and Baby Home" or "Cotland" was next inspected. (All three of these institutions are situated near one another.) This is a happy refuge for girls when about to become mothers; they are taken in some weeks or months

before; they go to the hospital for their confinements, and then return with their babies. Situations are found for the girls, and foster mothers for the babies. A very interesting factor in relation to this institution is that special officers, trained in detective work, are kept to look up the fathers and insist upon their contributing to the child's support. No less than £1,000 was obtained last year in this manner.

When we returned to headquarters, tea awaited



POOR LITTLE JOE,

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