

THE WAR.

A medical correspondent of the *Times* writes:—

"I have had an opportunity during the last few days of visiting several of the great Brussels hospitals and ambulances and of seeing some of the wounded who have been sent down from the front. Two facts have struck me very forcibly. First, a very large number of the Belgian soldiers are wounded only in the legs; and, secondly, many soldiers seem to have collapsed through sheer exhaustion.

"In peace time one sees and hears little or nothing of this extreme exhaustion because, of course, in peace time the almost super-physical is not demanded. But war brings new conditions. Some of these Belgian soldiers were at work and on the march during the stupendous days, Wednesday and Thursday of last week, practically without a moment's respite. They went, literally, till they dropped. Only with actual loss of consciousness was duty relinquished.

"As a medical man this remarkable state of affairs interested me enormously. What force of will to fight and struggle until the last gasp! Exhaustion one sees often, of course, and heat-stroke in hot climates is a commonplace. But this type of exhaustion is by itself—the final triumph of brave spirits.

"The victims present a very alarming appearance when first met. They seem almost to be dead. They are limp and pale and cold. After a time, however, strength begins to return, and recovery is usually not protracted. In every case the men who had been 'knocked out' in this manner expressed the keenest desire to return at once to the ranks; they seemed even to hold themselves in some contempt. Many of them have already had their wish."

Sir John Furley, in a letter in the Press on "The Use and Abuse of the Red Cross," says:—

"So much have I been ashamed of the abuse of the Red Cross that, in the course of four international wars and two civil wars, I have never worn the Red Cross on my arm, as I declined to recognise the misappropriation of a badge which, in my estimation, was almost of a sacred character.

"War on a stupendous scale is now threatening us on all sides; thousands of benevolent men and women are urgently demanding the privilege to devote their energies to the relief of the sick and suffering both at home and abroad, and Red Cross flags and badges are everywhere conspicuous, but these flags and badges have absolutely no authority to support them.

"I remember during the Boer War 3,000 armlets were sent from the War Office to South Africa for distribution, but as they bore no official mark they were perfectly useless, especially as the Red Cross brassards could be purchased in any draper's shop.

"I would strongly urge on the War Office, the

necessity, before it is too late, to issue proper armlets officially stamped and limited to the use of those persons who have been accepted for hospital or ambulance work or in connection with such establishments on sea or land. The stamp should be affixed on the outside of the brassard, and the name of the wearer, with date of issue, legibly written on the inside."

Offers of beds in hospitals and elsewhere for the reception of the sick and wounded and convalescents are being made on all sides, and the King will place Balmoral Castle at the disposal of the authorities as a hospital for our wounded sailors and soldiers, should the need arise.

The splendid response to the Prince of Wales's Appeal for contributions to a National Relief Fund, shows that the nation is mindful of its obligations to those who are fighting its battles at the front, and who will do so with an easier mind knowing that those dependent on them at home are being cared for. The Fund can scarcely receive too much support, and small as well as large contributions are welcome. All remittances should be addressed to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Buckingham Palace. A coupon on which the necessary particulars can be filled up will be found on page iv of our advertisement columns.

Miss Tuke, principal of Bedford College, Regent's Park, has offered the use of buildings for Red Cross work. Classes in first aid will commence on Monday afternoon next, at 2.30.

In conjunction with the Army Veterinary Corps Our Dumb Friends' League has started the Blue Cross Society, the object of which is to send out capable animal nurses, who would be instructed in methods of speedily putting injured horses out of their misery, and would also attend to the disabled and wounded. Subscriptions will be received by Mr. A. Coke, Secretary, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

We learn that a small hospital is being equipped by the English colony in Antwerp which is to be handed over to the Croix Rouge for all nationalities. Donations may be sent to the hon. treasurer, Mr. W. H. Newman, 19, Avenue Cogels, Antwerp.

The wife of the Belgian Minister in London says that articles of clothing and the like for sick, wounded, and distressed Belgians may be sent to Mr. Navaux, 8, Chiswell Street, London, E.C., and not 89, Chiswell Street, as previously reported.

LYSOL.

Messrs. Chas. Zimmermann & Co. (Chemicals), Ltd., beg to announce that although Lysol in view of the European War is in great demand throughout this country, the price will still be unaltered, and it can be obtained from chemists, as heretofore. This preparation manufactured in England is examined and guaranteed by Ernest J. Parry, B.Sc., F.C.S., F.I.C.

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