

seems admirable for the purpose. The idea was Mr. Singer's, as the ordinary materials were found to be too heavy, and it is certainly a success.

Another department of the work which is of the very greatest service is the information bureau, managed by local ladies. They attend daily, straighten difficulties, find out from the Sisters and give information to relatives of patients who are on the danger list, arrange hospitality in the village for relatives who come from a distance, and deal with many of the questions in the Matron's correspondence, see that patients have note paper and envelopes, write letters for them, take visitors round the hospital, and do hundred and one other things to which the busy nursing staff have not time to attend. It is an invaluable bit of service.

The management of the library is in the most capable hands of Miss J. H. and Miss Mary Findlater, who are residents in Paignton.

Just one more word. I was told that the very first thing the men want when they come in is a smoke. Cigarettes and pipes are bestowed upon the hospital in plenty, but very little tobacco, and some men do not care for cigarettes, so tobacco would be a very welcome gift.

The Committee of the American Women's War Relief Fund, 31, Old Burlington Street, London, W., of which Lady Paget is President, are greatly to be congratulated on the support which their scheme has received, and on having secured so capable a secretary as Miss Wills. Much money is necessary however to keep up this splendid hospital, and contributions will be gratefully received by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Walter Burns, 50, Grosvenor Street, London, W.

M. B.

### AN URGENT NEED.

The havoc wrought by the War is evidenced not only by wounds and physical disease, but in the condition of mental overstrain and shock of many gallant soldiers returning from the front, due, as Lord Knutsford points out in a letter to the press, to exposure, excessive strain, and tension. These men can be cured if they can receive proper attention from physicians who have made a speciality of treating such conditions, but at present there is no adequate provision for their care. Yet no class of case is more pitiable, and if the delicate nervous system is to recover its poise prompt treatment is an urgent necessity.

Lord Knutsford, to whom the pathetic spectacle of brave soldiers broken down mentally in this ruthless War makes an insistent appeal, asks the public for £10,000 to finance a scheme which has the sanction and support of the War Office, to provide a quiet home in London, and another in the country, where under suitable conditions they can receive remedial treatment.

Money and offers of houses can be sent to the Hon. Secretary, C. R. Callard, Esq., 3, St. James Street, S.W. The need is urgent, and we hope Lord Knutsford will obtain the very moderate sum for which he appeals.

### THE CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

Sir Arthur Sloggett, Director-General, has left for France to act as Chief Commissioner both for the Order of St. John and for the British Red Cross Society. He will be assisted by Sir Savile Crossley as Assistant Chief Commissioner.

It has now been arranged that all applications for service from nurses and orderlies should be addressed to the joint committee of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and the British Red Cross Society, at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, and all applications should be made there.

Miss S. A. Swift, late Matron of Guy's Hospital, London, has been appointed Matron-in-Chief of the Nursing Department in connection with the St. John Ambulance Association in succession to Miss Claridge, called up for duty at Norwich on the A.N.S.R., Miss G. A. Rogers, late Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, and Miss McCall Anderson, R.R.C., late Matron of St. George's Hospital, are co-operating with Miss Swift to form the Selection Committee. The Association is to be congratulated on having secured the help of ladies of eminence in the nursing profession, and that the selection of the nurses sent to the front under their auspices will be in experienced professional hands.

A most interesting announcement is that the British Red Cross Society has been instructed to purchase and equip, for immediate dispatch to the Front, a motor ambulance "out of the profits arising from Sir E. T. Cook's 'Life of Miss Florence Nightingale.'" They could not be applied to a better use, but let us hope that only fully trained nurses will accompany the Florence Nightingale Ambulance. The great founder of modern nursing, who took infinite pains to obtain the training which would make her efficient, had no use for shoddy nursing.

The illustration on page 368 shows the ex-Empress Eugénie in the grounds surrounding her beautiful house at Farnborough Hill, which she has converted into a military hospital, with the nursing staff, and convalescent patients.

Miss A. M. Beedie has been appointed Matron of the hospital to be opened at Clandon, Surrey, where Lord Onslow has generously placed his house at the disposal of the military authorities.

Miss Meriel Buchanan, daughter of the British Ambassador at Petrograd, describes the Russian wounded as bearing their pain with heroic patience.

Prince and Princess Peter Wolonsky have provided a fully equipped field hospital and gone to the front with it.

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