

THE CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

The King has lent one of his cars to the Volunteer Motor Mobilisation Corps. This body has taken over the work of conveying soldiers discharged from hospital to the railway termini or their own homes. The Corps has received the sanction and approval of the War Office.

The Dowager Empress Marie Feodorovna and the Grand Duchess Xenie Alexandrovna, the Czar's sister, recently visited the English hospital for Russian wounded at Petrograd.

Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson has received the following message from Lord Rothschild: "The British Red Cross Society desires me to express its most grateful thanks to you, our Australian Branches, and all in the Commonwealth who helped us with such splendid generosity. The total contributions of the Australasian Branches now amount to £50,000, this irrespective of munificent gifts in kind. This is a fine record, of which the Commonwealth may be justly proud."

The motor soup kitchen that has been presented by the Ladies' Automobile Club to the St. John Ambulance Association, for service at the Front, will be on view from January 4th to 9th, at the showrooms of Messrs. Barker, 66, South Audley Street, London. The secretary of the Edinburgh and Border Hospital, Dunkirk, writes that the Ladies' Automobile Club Ambulance is of the greatest assistance.

Dover is to be a landing hospital base. Three steamers will run between Boulogne and Dover daily, and the worst cases will be treated at the new marine station on the Admiralty Pier, which is as big as Charing Cross Station, and has been fitted up as a hospital.

The mobile hospital, for the treatment of serious cases at the Front, provided by the generosity of Liverpool merchants, is expected to be ready to sail, if required, by the end of February.

The object aimed is to provide a hospital which can be taken to pieces, removed and re-erected within twenty-four hours. The building will, therefore, be of wood, in portable sections, and the different blocks will be connected by covered ways. Each of the eight pavilions containing wards will have twenty-six beds. Mr. T. C. Littler Jones has been appointed Senior Surgeon; Dr. Nathan Raw, Senior Physician; and Miss Whitson, as Matron, with forty nurses, will form the nursing staff.

The British Red Cross Society has received three generous gifts of hospital trains; two given by the milling trade of the United Kingdom, for the transport of the British wounded in France and Belgium, of which the total carrying capacity is 358, with a staff and personnel of 51, and one

which has been placed at the disposal of the Egyptian military authorities by the Egyptian Red Crescent Society.

Whoever invented the hospital train is an immense benefactor to wounded mankind, and no money has been better spent by the War Office than that expended upon them. A doctor engaged at a base hospital in France thus describes how the comfort and care of the wounded soldiers are provided for on such a train:—

"I always wanted to see how the wounded are conveyed here and how the train is run. This one consisted of nine *wagons-lits* coaches, so every man travels 'first-class.' There is heaps of room for the lying-down cases as well as for those who can sit up. Directly the train starts hot food is served out, every man is given a pair of slippers, cards and cigarettes and pipes are served round for those who can sit up and amuse themselves; and the doctors go round and dress all the bad cases, or those who haven't been done that day. There are four nurses on the train, a major R.A.M.C and two other doctors, and each wagon has three orderlies. The journey takes about five hours, as there are so many stops to allow troop and transport trains to pass; but the men are fed several times (a thing Tommy loves), and all are most comfortable. There is a well-fitted-up dispensary, with dressings, splints, a few instruments, and ordinary drugs and heaps of morphia, &c., if required. Taking it all round, wounded Tommy could not be better looked after."

A nurse who goes backwards and forwards constantly on such a train, from the clearing hospital to the base, writes: "I greatly enjoy this hospital train service, everything is provided for the comfort of the patients, and we are able to care for them to our hearts' content. If only the poor French soldiers had such a service, how much suffering it would save. I am glad to hear of the splendid contingent of motor ambulances which the British Ambulance Committee is providing for the French Government. . . . there will be great competition for Queen Alexandra car. The French soldiers are the most generous and uncomplaining fellows in the world—and the most brave; well do they deserve all the comforts they can get."

If you can afford it, give your own particular Tommy, or, if you have not got one, some other woman's Tommy, a pair of indiarubber boots. The recent terrible weather has resulted in many cases of frost-bitten feet amongst the men in the trenches; and the Russian and French Governments have taken steps to minimise their suffering by providing indiarubber boots.

Men invalided home state that there are several causes which contribute to frost bite. Tight boots is one. Owing to the severe cold, the men's feet become swollen and benumbed, and severe frost-bite ensues, followed sometimes by gangrene.

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