

AN INDISPENSABLE INDUSTRY.

One of the features of the present War is the large extent to which buildings not designed as hospitals have been utilised and adapted for this purpose. In effecting this conversion one of the most important and often difficult matters is to provide an abundant and continuous supply of hot and sterilised water for the wards and operating theatre, and also to instal efficient cooking arrangements.

The welfare of sick and wounded men depends so largely on the quality and cooking of the food provided for them that no pains are too great

The same applies to the feeding of recruits. It is of the greatest importance that these men upon whom the future of the Empire depends should be well fed.

In many cases, without even the help of outside carpenters or builders, a place which was a mere barn has been in twenty-four hours fully fitted up, and actually in use, for the military cooks to serve hundreds of recruits for Kitchener's new army. Further, the leaders of the gas industry throughout the country have met the situation in a most generous spirit in this national crisis. In many cases entire outfits have been provided free of charge, and the gas consumed has been charged for on most favourable terms.



KITCHEN IN THE ALBANY ROAD MILITARY HOSPITAL, CARDIFF.

to ensure that the service installed is as effective as possible.

It is here that the various gas undertakings have been and continue to be of the utmost service. In the organisation of temporary buildings the installation of ordinary ranges would be not only an unnecessarily costly, but a lengthy process. Fortunately, just here the perfection to which the modern gas stove and its accessories has now attained is of the utmost service. The stoves are ready, and they can be easily and quickly installed and connected, and by these means cooking on as large a scale as is desired can be done quickly and well.

Another way in which the gas companies have proved that they are able to render national service of value has been in connection with the Red Cross work. Thus both at Chichester and Colchester coffee stalls have been established outside railway stations, and in other places where cold and hungry soldiers and recruits are likely to be passing. These stalls under the Red Cross have gas heaters which keep up a continual supply of hot coffee, which with other refreshments has proved to be most acceptable.

Our illustration shows the kitchen in the Albany Road Military Hospital, Cardiff, where there is accommodation for 175 patients. Here

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)