

CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

Immense pleasure was given to the Australian wounded soldiers now in hospital at Harefield Park, by the visit on Saturday of Mr. Hughes, the Australian Prime Minister, and Mrs. Hughes. They were accompanied by Mr. Andrew and Mrs. Fisher. Although some 350 soldiers are at present in hospital, Mr. Hughes spoke to each individually. In the case of the most severely wounded men he promised to write to their relatives at home, and send books which he found the men most desired to those likely to stay long in hospital. Then he made a speech in the dining hall when he publicly declared that the

cases, and 102 lying-down, or 306 lying-down and a staff of 46, 32 of these being orderlies. In the wards various devices may be noted for the convenience of the nurses and the comfort of the patients. The cots with a movable head piece which prevents the pillows from slipping, and with straps above to take the place of pulleys, brackets for feeder or spittoon within easy reach of the patients, racks for their papers and books, non-tipable stools on which the nurses can stand to attend to the patients in the upper cots. Then in addition to the fixed electric lights there are movable torches; cisterns of drinking water in each ward are in charge of the nurses and under lock and key.

The pharmacy and operating theatre are lead



MR. ANDREW FISHER
(HIGH COMMISSIONER).

MR. HUGHES.

MRS. HUGHES. MISS ETHEL GRAY
(MATRON).

THE AUSTRALIAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, HAREFIELD PARK.

men had done their duty splendidly by Australia, and Australia would do its duty by them.

The illustration shows Mr. Hughes bending over the bed of a patient. Miss Ethel Gray, Matron of the Hospital is present in uniform. We have already described this delightful hospital.

Those who remember the hospital trains sent out to France at the beginning of the war, and saw the new train built by the Great Western Railway at Swindon last week, must realize that great improvements have been made in the last eighteen months. The train, which cost £28,000, and is over 900 feet long has through communication from end to end, from the isolation ward at the far end, with its 18 cots, to the very last car. It provides accommodation for 472 sitting-up

lined, the latter with an operating table covered with zinc. There is a store for medical comforts, as well as a pack store. There are comfortable quarters for both the medical and nursing staffs—the latter having a cosy little dining room with oval dining table, and the orderlies also have comfortable quarters. A movable ladder is provided which can be attached to the outside of a coach if necessary, for it must be remembered that hospital trains at the front do not often draw up at platforms. Altogether the comfort of patients and staff has been most carefully considered and Train 26 will speed on its mission of mercy well equipped for all contingences.

The country owes Mr. Ronald M'Neill a debt of gratitude for his powerful speech in the House of

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