

whilst a Home *only* for girl mothers (never accept for second birth) in Rome saves a large majority by aiding them to keep the infant, and not to add to the first sin (often not premeditated) the second one of abandoning the child.

Knowing no one who might take up the matter (though there *must* be people left desolate who might find consolation in working out some such scheme with their money and influence), the idea came that the Bishop of London might know the way, and I sent him the article. I enclose answer."

The Bishop's Secretary wrote thanking our correspondent in his name for her letter and enclosure, which he had read with much interest, and saying that he had consulted a friend of his who was very experienced in the matter which she had laid before him, and enclosing her reply.

The Bishop's correspondent replied:—"Apart from the open-air bit of the scheme, the idea has already been carried out in at least one Home, which I have heard something of. . . . They are teaching the girls upholstery, housewifery, and gardening, so that it is quite on the lines that the author of the 'Babies' Camps' suggests. Personally, I think it would be a very good thing if more of these Homes were started if one could secure the right people to run them."

Visions rise in one's mind of colonies such as that at Duxhurst, which under "the right person" is doing such wonderful redemptive work amongst the victims of inebriety, and of Lord Mayor Treloar's Hospital for children crippled with tubercular disease on the breezy downs at Alton. The latter is housed in huts which originally formed the "Absent-minded Beggar Hospital," which, with its complete equipment, was made over to the trustees by the War Office after the South African War. To what better purpose could some of the numerous temporary hospitals in various parts of the country be put at the conclusion of the present war than in providing homes for mothers and babies on lines at once sympathetic and practical? Here is work for the Church Army. If carefully organized, such homes should be largely, if not entirely, self-supporting.

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons have published in booklet form "The Case of Edith Cavell—A Study of the Rights of Non-Combatants," by Mr. James M. Beck, former Assistant Attorney-General of the United States, which is a reply to Dr. Albert Zimmermann, Germany's Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. The cost of the booklet, which is reprinted from the *New York Times*, is 6d.

PRACTICAL POINTS.

Surgeon's Seamless Arm Stocking.

Under the above title Messrs. Sharp & Smith, of Chicago, have recently put on the market a seamless garment, which has at once become popular with the surgeons who have had an opportunity to give it a trial, because it has such a wide field of usefulness in the doctor's office as well as the hospital operating room.

It is well known how difficult it is to apply a cotton or gauze bandage smoothly and evenly to serve as a protection to the skin under a plaster-of-Paris cast. With this stocking, however, a smooth surface is secured, and proper apposition of the fractured bones is facilitated; the comfort of the patient is also made more certain because the proper shape of the garment prevents wrinkling which occurs sometimes even when the well-known tubular material (stockinet) is used for this purpose.

The value of its use in the operating room will be at once apparent when the garment is drawn over the bare arm and the rubber glove drawn over the lower cuff. It affords the operator



SEAMLESS ARM STOCKING.

complete protection, and is much superior to the long-sleeved gown or detached sleeves, which have to be fastened with safety-pins, &c.

For office gynecological work, in obstetric work or applying dressings in the homes of patients, it will be found equally valuable as a protective and a time-saver. There are many other occasions on which this device can be used to great advantage, such as holding dressings in place on the arm or leg, which, as a rule, cannot be held securely for any length of time without resorting to the use of adhesive strips, which are rather uncomfortable at times. Their value in emergency and field work will be appreciated, as they can always be kept on hand in a sterilized condition. Inasmuch as the first cost is inconsiderable, and as they can be resterilized and used many times over, they seem, says the *Modern Hospital*, which publishes this note, very desirable from the standpoint of economy.

The stockings are made in three lengths—13 in., 16 in., and 20 in. long—and can be secured at surgical supply houses.

In the last three years, among five thousand children born at the Maternity Hospital at Basel, there has not been one death from infection of the umbilicus. The method relied upon was cutting the cord short and applying Balsam of Peru.

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