

things, it makes an immense difference in comfort although it may not be usual; but that is not the point.

"The above may all appear very trivial matters, but they are not so to a sick person; and it is attention to all such little details which make all the difference between efficient nursing, such as one has a right to expect from trained people and the rough and uncomfortable experiences which one may expect only from the untaught."

CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE FRONT.

HOW TO SEND PARCELS TO THE FRONT.

Letters and parcels intended for delivery to the troops by Christmas Day should be posted as long as possible in advance of the dates given below.

British Expeditionary Force in France and Belgium: Letters, December 16th; parcels, December 11th.

Egyptian Expeditionary Force: Letters, December 2nd; parcels, November 25th.

Salonika: Letters, December 2nd; parcels, November 25th.

Special attention is drawn to the following regulations:—

1. Letters and parcels must be fully and completely addressed.
2. Parcels must be very strongly packed.
3. Fruit, perishable articles, bottles, pudding-bins and the like are prohibited.
4. The name and address of the sender must be written on the outside of parcels; parcels which do not comply with this rule will be refused.

ASSISTING MUNITION OUTPUT.

At the annual meeting of the British Commercial Gas Association, held recently in London, when the President, Sir Hallelwell Rogers, J.P. (chairman of the Birmingham Corporation Gas Committee), was in the chair, it was mentioned that the work of the past year had been largely directed to making known the many and growing industrial uses for gas as a fuel, especially in munition works, where the output has been greatly facilitated and the number of hands materially reduced by the installation of gas-heated crucibles and ovens, and also to assisting in the campaign for national thrift by publishing numerous hints on how to economise in the consumption of gas, while making the maximum use of its labour-saving and other advantages. It was also announced that a National Gas Council comprising the governing bodies of all the existing organizations in the gas industry, including the B.C.G.A., had been established to deal, as they arise, with matters of importance and urgency that concern all sections of the industry and call for united action on its behalf.

AN EXAMPLE FOR GREAT BRITAIN.

The Second Chamber at the Hague has adopted an article by which women will be eligible as members of the States General. Three cheers for the Dutch Parliament!

LADIES HELP UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

Mr. Anthony Hope Hawkins presided over the sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Ladies' Association of University College Hospital, held in the Medical Schools Library on Tuesday, November 16th.

Satisfactory reports were presented by the Acting Secretary, Lady Elizabeth Dawson, and the Honorary Secretary, Lady Godlee. The Association is doing excellent work in providing garments for the use of the patients, and also in raising money for the support of three beds. The endowment of a fourth bed is being raised through its efforts.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the Report, said that it was true to say that a new spirit was abroad both as to giving and working. Those who, before the war, either from idleness or diffidence, had not undertaken regular, useful work, had now found out that there was a niche they could fill. Women were discovering new powers and capacities, and they had been readily appreciated. The spirit fostered by the war applied to work less directly incident upon it and which was not limited to its duration. All in the audience who were not members of the Association were invited to become so.

The Matron, Miss Finch, made a statement showing how valuable was the assistance rendered to her by the Association, and she said that through its kind offices she was able to supply all the demands for clothing which came from the Ward Sisters.

The Treasurer, Sir Ernest Hatch, Bart., said that after the war he for one should welcome the help of women in the administration of the Hospital, for he realised that, with the exception of the medical staff, the hospitals were entirely dependent upon their work.

At the conclusion of the meeting visitors were invited to inspect the hospital, and a considerable number availed themselves of the opportunity. The new Maternity block at the top of the building consists of three small wards and a labour ward. The chief centre of interest lay in the premature twin babies who had been born in the district during the previous night. Two weird little scraps of humanity they were, one weighing 2½ lb. and the other 2¼ lb. They had just been christened, and tiny Ambrose was wearily retracing his way back into the land where little babies are given the chance which is denied them here.

Down below, in the obstetric wards, there was a Cæsarian baby on view, a charming little person. Both she and her mother were excellent advertisements for the operation.

There was an air of homely comfort in the wards, and the custom which prevails in University Hospital of allowing each patient to have tea in her own teapot is much appreciated and compensates the nurses for the extra labour involved.

The military wards, which ordinarily accommo-

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