CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

At Sidcup Sports, on Saturday last, some soldiers were wearing the new and easy belt crutches. The legs are made of telescopic tubular steel adjustable to any height, fitted to socket plates of aluminium on a leather belt. The wearer is able to sit in a vehicle or at a table in comfort, and perfect freedom is allowed for the use of the arms. The crutches are adjustable to a Sam Browne belt.

An important scheme is developing in Scotland for the cure and succour of the discharged soldier they are discharged, however, their case is on another plane, and so it comes about that men suffering from neurasthenia or epilepsy, as the result, say, of shell-shock, find that there exists no hospital in Scotland for the treatment of the former complaint, and only one—at the Bridge of Weir—that is devoted to the alleviation of the latter scourge. As soon as such men are discharged they now come under the ægis of the Pensions Ministry, which has set up District Committees for the formation of hospitals. Scotland has been divided for this purpose into four districts namely, Edinburgh and South-Eastern, Glasgow and South-Western, Dundee and Central, and



NOVEL BELT CRUTCH FOR CRIPPLED SOLDIERS.

who finds himself still a sufferer from one of the many ills engendered by war service. Nowhere is this scheme more advanced or nearer fruition than in Edinburgh and its district. The creation, indeed, of three new hospitals in and near Edinburgh has been decided upon; the sites have been chosen, and certain financial and building plans have been concluded which bring these institutions well within sight of actual working order.

The scheme has Government sanction, impetus, approval, and control, and has evolved from the enterprise of Mr. George Barnes, until recently the Minister of Pensions, ably and enthusiastically supported by Local Committees.

At present the War Office look after disabled men as long as they are in the Army. As soon as Aberdeen and Northern. The dominating committee of all these districts is the Institution Committee for Scotland.

When these committees were formed, the view was taken in the Edinburgh district that five diseases demanded the provision of special hospitals for discharged soldiers. These diseases are neurasthenia, epilepsy, tuberculosis, advanced rheumatism, and paraplegia, a form of paralysis. After many difficulties, arrangements have been made to provide three institutions for the succour of three types of patient.

The Neurasthenic Hospital will be at Craig End, Liberton, the Hospital for Epileptics at Muriston, near Calder, and for Orthopædic cases a building has been secured in Edinburgh.



