

A FAMILIAR SIGN.

BOOTS, DISPENSING CHEMISTS AND PERFUMERS.

Nurses travel all over the kingdom in the course of their professional duties, but there are few places of any importance to which they go where they are not greeted by a sign which they regard as a friend and ally, for, from personal experience, it has come to signify to them reliability, purity and excellence.

The story of the development of Boots' Drug Stores is one of those fascinating pages in the history of commerce, which is really the story of the life and business genius of one man. In his early youth, Sir Jesse Boot assisted his mother, who was a widow in straitened circumstances, in carrying on a small shop in Goose Gate, Nottingham, and started his career with no capital in cash, but with ability, persistency and energy. The Boots Companies of which he is the head have now 555 shops—many of them great department stores—throughout the country, and their workshops, warehouses, laboratories and factories, employ no less than ten thousand workpeople.

The Central Offices are still at Nottingham, and a description of the Island Street establishment, where the pharmaceutical preparations are made, reads like a tale of the days of Solomon. "This is a world storehouse, and a veritable temple of science, for drugs are here gathered from every clime and prepared with the closest care and skill for the use of the people. On the one hand are hogsheads, cases, tins, bales and carboys of goods from every quarter of the globe—gums from the Soudan, senna from India, opium from Smyrna, figs from Asia Minor, and rhubarb from China."

Again, at the London Road premises and their offshoot, the Toilet Powder Factory, there is "Civet from Thibet (contained in buffalo horns covered with monkey skin), musk from China, Attar of Roses from Bulgaria, Extracts of Tuberoses and Jasmin from southern France, Oil of Petit Grain from Uruguay, Ylang Oil from the Philippines, Eucalyptus from Australia, and Coconut and Palm Oils from the Pacific Islands."

A visit to the Stores of Messrs. Boots, at 182, Regent Street, W., or other of the Boots' Stores, will demonstrate the perfection which results from all the work in the various Departments which produce the goods here offered.

In the department devoted to surgical supplies are to be found many things of use to nurses in their work. First must be mentioned the new antiseptic Chloramine-T (introduced by Dr. H. D. Dakin and his colleagues of the Leeds University) which has many substantial advantages in use, as it is practically non-toxic, does not coagulate blood serum, and is stable both in powder and solution. A non-toxic, non-irritating, antiseptic gauze is also prepared from Chloramine-T. It is well-known that many antiseptics strong enough

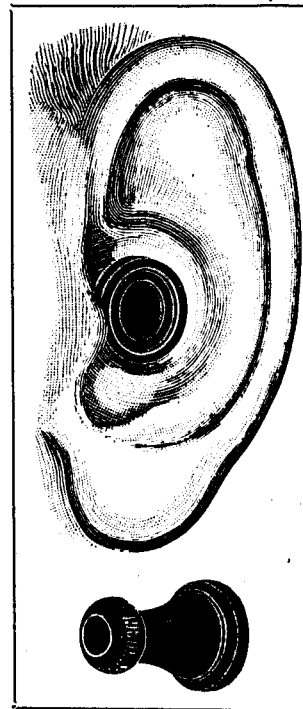
to be effective in the case of infected wounds are detrimental to the tissues. Chloramine-T. is so innocuous in this respect that it may even be used as a mouth wash.

One of the troubles and injuries to which both sailors and soldiers are liable is "gun deafness," and Messrs. Boots stock the Mallock-Armstrong patent Ear Defenders for Active Service, as supplied to the British Admiralty, an illustration of which appears on this page. While wearing these Defenders, small sounds, conversations and commands can be heard as usual, but the firing of the heaviest guns can do no harm to the ears, as the enlarged base of the Defender, containing the protective "drum," precludes the Defender being driven into the canal any further, however heavy the explosion. The price in pocket case, with

cleaner and instructions is 4s. (post free 4s. 2d.). A set of dummies for fitting, costs 5s., which is refunded on their return.

A very useful pocket case for instruments in khaki drill, sterilizable, made to roll up and tie, costs 2s. 6d.; silky fibre handkerchiefs, 1s. 3d. per fifty; or, in paper crepon, 9d. Special lines of instruments for nurses are also stocked. Thus, scissors of the finest Sheffield make, hand forged and nickel plated, with aseptic joints, cost 4s. 6d. Two minutes clinical thermometers cost 1s.; 30 seconds, 2s. 3d.

A visit to the drug and perfumery department will



THE MALLOCK-ARMSTRONG (PATENT) EAR DEFENDER.

prove how admirably the health and comfort of our sailors and soldiers are catered for, and how attractively the various items are presented. We noticed bisulphate of soda tablets for purifying drinking water, anti-fly cream, to prevent, or to heal mosquito bites. Foot powder, vermin powder, tablets of compressed medicines compounded of drugs whose purity and freshness is guaranteed, and many other things which make all the difference between comfort and discomfort.

We feel sure that nurses and others visiting these Stores will be delighted both with their convenience and usefulness.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)