

## PRESENTATION OF MOTOR BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY TO THE WAR OFFICE.

The ever-growing employment of bacteriological methods in medical and surgical treatment calls for increased facilities for the application of bacteriological technique in connection with the sick and wounded in the present war. The necessity of providing some means of applying bacteriological tests in emergency conditions has led Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, the founder of the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research and of several other scientific research institutions, to present to the War Office for the use of the British Army Medical Department, a completely equipped motor bacteriological laboratory.

The formal presentation of the laboratory to the War Office has just taken place. There were present Brigadier-General Sir H. C. L. Holden, K.C.B., F.R.S., from the Ministry of Munitions; also Lieut-Colonel G. B. Stanistreet, C.M.G., Assistant Director-General A.M.S.; and Major Smallman, representing the War Office. Deputy Surgeon-General D. J. P. McNab, of the Admiralty, Surgeon-General Sir M. W. H. Russell, K.C.M.G., A.M.S., of the War Office, and Sir Frederick Treves, Bart, G.C.V.O., wrote referring in appreciative terms to this handsome and useful gift.

In making the presentation, Mr. George E. Pearson, addressing Colonel Stanistreet, said:—"I regret that Mr. Wellcome is unable to be here and personally make this presentation. Unfortunately, he is obliged to remain abroad because his medical advisers will not permit him to return for the present.

"On his behalf I have much pleasure in asking you, Sir, as the representative of the War Office, to accept this motor bacteriological laboratory for the use of the Army Medical Department abroad, where I trust its varied scientific equipment may be found of special service in dealing with medical problems on the spot.

"The body of the car and its extended weather-proof annexe, form a self-contained laboratory affording a total working space of 219 square feet. A complete bacteriological equipment is supplied in thirteen strongly-made canteens so arranged that the contents are easily accessible, but securely safeguarded against damage in transit from place to place under rough and difficult conditions of transport.

"The equipment is completed by the addition of the necessary tables, incubators, microscopes, balances, autoclave, centrifuge, &c., and a water-tank fitted with a suitable pump, is erected on the roof of the car.

"The annexe and the bacteriological fittings, &c., are so designed that they can be readily assembled and securely packed on the accompanying three-ton chassis.

"I desire gratefully to acknowledge the courtesy of the British Committee of the French Red Cross Society and of Dr. Tilmant and Professor Garstang,

in permitting the use of their plans and specifications."

Colonel Stanistreet then suitably expressed on behalf of the War Office his high appreciation of the most appropriate gift, which he was confident would be of considerable value to the Army.

The company then proceeded to inspect the equipment, which, in addition to the apparatus mentioned above, includes hot chambers, Pasteur oven, microtome, ice-chest for water test samples, a complete electric lighting outfit including a dynamo and accumulators, and provision for animal cages on the roof. Even the apparatus for the staff-mess and sleeping accommodation is included. The arrangements for the many thousands of accessories and for their safe storage and transport in the drawers of the canteens have been worked out with extraordinary ingenuity so that everything is conveniently grouped and readily accessible.

The outfit, which is complete in every detail, is self-contained, and, owing to the method of construction, can be either assembled or packed for transport in about two hours.

## CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

The Chelsea Hospital for Women has received a donation of £200 from Captain T. Sorby, who was recently a patient in the military section, towards providing an X-Ray installation which is much needed in the treatment both of the wounded officers and of the women patients.

"From the Fire Step" is the English edition of the famous American book "Over the Top," of which over a quarter of a million copies have already been sold. It tells how a young American was stirred by the sinking of the *Lusitania* to leave his job in Jersey City and come over to enlist in the British Army. From this point he relates in the frankest American way his experiences in the war until, after rising to the rank of sergeant, he was wounded and discharged as physically unfit. He then returned to America, where he has been devoting all his time to lecturing and working to stimulate recruiting, and to raise money for the Allies by way of the big American Liberty Loan. On November 4th, he gave his third lecture in Carnegie Hall, the biggest hall in New York. The place was packed, and hundreds were turned away. He lectured for an hour and a half, and then he went down through the audience carrying a pail to collect pennies for the Smoke Fund for the trenches. Four or five of his friends were carrying other pails, and as the "pennies" took all sorts of forms up to twenty-dollar gold pieces, thousands of dollars were collected. He has done the same thing in Philadelphia and Boston, and the boys in the trenches, will have cause to bless this clever Yankee sergeant for his memory of their needs.

The book is published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, Ltd., 24, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C. 2.

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