

A RAILWAY HOSPITAL CENTRE.

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.

From an economic as well as from a humanitarian point of view every large concern makes some provision for dealing with the mishaps to the human machine, and the Canadian National Railways has a system which commends itself to all thinkers.

At Montreal, where 900 of the railway staff are concentrated, a health centre has been organised in charge of Dr. John McCombie.

Dr. McCombie has a group of trained nurses and assistant doctors and they give employees of the company free advice, examination and treatment, and when required make arrangements for consultation with specialists free of charge.

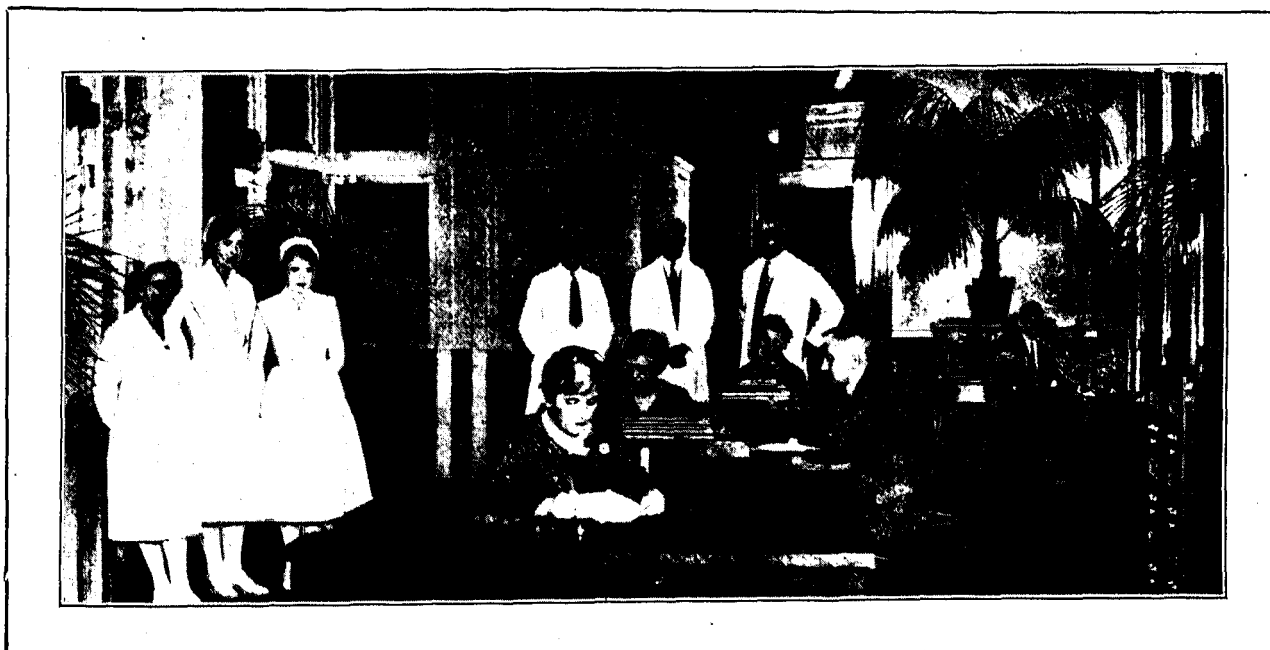
From nine o'clock in the morning until 5.30 at night a doctor is on duty, and at night a trained first-aid specialist is on duty, with powers to telephone a doctor if necessary.

exercise of certain muscular groups, and a whirlpool arm bath to loosen stiffened joints.

Consulting rooms are set aside for men and women where they can seek advice. There is also a fully equipped pathological laboratory, which in addition to carrying out routine tests for doctors, and supplying standard mixtures for the various health centres, also analyses water from the various Canadian National Railways pleasure resorts and the food and water provided on the Company's trains, and in its hotels and steamships.

One of the most pleasing features of the hospital is that the administrative office containing the necessary desks, filing cabinets, typewriters, telephone and other clerical requirements is light and airy, and is tastefully decorated with plants supplied from the railway greenhouses.

At the various workshops emergency offices for first-aid are established where urgent cases can be temporarily treated. An ambulance, too, is provided to carry patients



A HEALTH CENTRE OF THE CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS.

The Staff in the Office at Montreal.

Employees on presenting themselves at the centre are supplied with a card which indicates whether the patient is there for physical examination on account of illness, accidental injury, or to qualify for employment insurance.

The patient is then examined, and after a preliminary diagnosis is sent to the appropriate department.

Complete records are kept so that the medical record of all ailing employees is always available. These statistics are extremely useful for the purpose of an analysis of the system as a whole, and help to reveal what steps can be taken to improve the health of the workers.

The centre itself is nothing less than an out-door department of a modern hospital, for it is equipped with the latest apparatus known to medical science.

There are departments specialising in diseases of the eyes, ears, nose, throat and teeth, and there are physiotherapy machines and X-ray equipment. There are also a quartz lamp for the treatment of skin diseases and tubercular conditions, infra-red rays for rheumatism, sciatica, muscular troubles, a sinusoidal machine for the mechanical

from these emergency stations to the main treatment centre, to hospitals or to their homes.

It will readily be seen that a railway company, even more than an ordinary concern, finds a hospital centre such as this a boon to the employees, and the employees themselves are proud of the organisation which looks after them so well in case of illness, or accident. CHARLES H. LEA.

The *Pacific Coast Journal of Nursing* for April contains a charming portrait of Father Junipero Serra, and says in this connection:—

"The history of nursing in California has deep roots, as deep as the history of the state itself. Father Junipero Serra, that lovable character of the Spanish Period, the founder of the first missions, was, we are told by the historians, a wise and tender nurse, concerned in the care of the physical, as also in the spiritual welfare of the Indians and missionaries. We are led to believe that he was a wise sanitarian as demonstrated by the healthful selection of sites for his missions."

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