

large and two small ambulance launches have recently been dispatched to Basra. The Aberdeen Branch has dispatched a motor launch to Malta to replace one sent from there to Mesopotamia.

PHYSICAL CLINIC FOR WOUNDED AND DISABLED SOLDIERS.

We have received the following communiqué: A physical clinique for the treatment of wounded and disabled officers is about to be opened at 126, Great Portland Street. The treatment, which will be entirely free of charge, will be under the direction of an honorary medical and surgical staff. In addition to the more familiar physical remedies (hot air and electrical baths, douches, massage, and manipulation) the clinic is furnished with whirlpool baths for the local treatment of stiff and disabled limbs and with a complete series of apparatus for mechanical treatment. The committee and medical staff invite members of the medical profession to view the clinic on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, June 26th to 28th, and matrons and nurses on Thursday, June 29th, between 2.30 and 5 p.m. Cases will be received for treatment on and after Monday, July 3rd, at 2.30 p.m.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES HOSPITAL.

Thanks to the liberal financial support accorded by all classes of the community in the Federated Malay States, the Committee of Management of the Military Hospital established by these States at Blackmore End, Kimpton, Herts, has been able to increase the accommodation from 80 to 168 beds. Two new wards, each of 44 beds; similar in type to those of the Canadian Military Hospital at Orpington, Kent, have been erected in the grounds of the house kindly lent by Mrs. Vincent. The hospital is being equipped with an x-ray installation, the cost of which is being borne by Messrs. Edward Boustead and Co., of Leadenhall Street, E.C., in conjunction with Messrs. Boustead, Hampshire and Co., of the Federated Malay States. Captain G. D. Freer, R.A.M.C.(T.), formerly P.M.O., Selangor, is in charge of the hospital.

MEDICAL OFFICER WANTED.

3rd Line Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C.(T.F.)

Vacancy for a keen Medical Officer as Lieutenant (promotion to Captain in six months) in above unit, at present in England but draft supplying; should ride or learn. Must sign for the war and imperial service obligation (foreign service if required). State age and experience.—Address, Commanding Officer, No. 1234, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL Office, Strand.

England and Wales.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN WALES.

THE members of the Royal Commission on University Education in Wales have been paying a visit to Cardiff this week, where they have made themselves acquainted with the organization and equipment of the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire and with the proposals for the establishment of a National Medical School for Wales, and the part which the Cardiff Hospital is prepared to take in that school. They propose to visit North Wales next week, and after the annual meeting of the North Wales Branch at the University College, Upper Bangor, on Tuesday, June 27th, a meeting of the profession will be held at 3 p.m. to hear an address by Sir William Osler, one of the members of the Commission, on the proposed National Medical School for Wales. It is expected that Mr. Thelwall Thomas, Professor of Regional Surgery in the University of Liverpool, and Lieutenant-Colonel Lynn Thomas, C.B., Consulting Surgeon to the Western Command and Surgeon to the Cardiff Hospital, will take part in the discussion on the subject. We hear that there is a proposal on foot to establish a separate University of Cardiff—a proposal which will call for very serious consideration, inasmuch as it seems extremely doubtful whether, with its present population, the policy of having two universities in the Principality is well advised. The proposal would no doubt come within the terms of reference of the Royal Commission, which is instructed, among other matters, to consider in what respects the present organization of university education in Wales can be improved.

NEW HOSPITAL SUPPLY DÉPÔT AT MANCHESTER.

The demand for surgical requisites and hospital garments for wounded soldiers and sailors has led to the establishment of the "Manchester War Hospital Supply Workrooms" at Dover House, opposite the University; they are under the superintendence of Lady Donner, with a committee of ladies, and under the auspices of the British Red

Cross Society and the Lancashire County War Comforts Association. The workers are all voluntary, and the rooms are open every day except Saturdays and Sundays. The work will supplement without interfering with the other work of the Red Cross Society or the County Association's working parties.

THE COTTAGE BENEFIT NURSING ASSOCIATION.

The Countess of Gainsborough presided at the annual meeting of this association, held on June 14th at Denison House, S.W. The objects of the society may be briefly stated as the training and supply of cottage nurses for country districts, the confederation of local associations working on the Holt-Ockley system, and the registration of cottage nurses, with needful supervision of their conduct and performance of duties. These nurses are selected from women (of good character, intelligence, and health), between 23 and 35, of the cottage class, and are trained during a four or six months' course in the theory and practical duties of sick nursing, and in some cases in maternity work. Their services are then placed at the disposal of the branch committees (of which there are some 150 in the country), and are available for tending sick persons in cottage homes, where they not only carry out the nursing instructions of the doctors, but give help in the household arrangements. To entitle to this benefit the patient has to pay a small annual subscription as well as a weekly fee during the nurse's residence, the amount of which is graded to meet the beneficiary's circumstances. The nurse is paid by the association, which reserves her certificate till she has proved her efficiency by four years' satisfactory service.

Miss B. M. Broadwood (the honorary secretary and director of the association) urged the importance of such service in sickness continuing to be available for cottagers in villages outside the range of district nurses. Nursing was a *service* rather than an independent profession. The doctors were the officers, and their instructions were to be carried out by the nurses. She trusted that the authorities of the College of Nursing might see their way to recognize in a separate list nurses of this special class, who did useful, if humble, work in the community, which could hardly fall within the scope of hospital-trained nurses. She was followed by Miss E. C. Joseph (Somerset), who outlined a scheme for the registration of nurses, based upon the standardization of efficiency; the recognition of different classes in the nursing service (for example, village nurses, sanatorium nurses, school nurses, children's sick nurses, and mental nurses, as well as fully trained hospital nurses), much as in the Teachers' Register were found elementary, secondary, university and special subject teachers, all hall-marked as efficient in their own class, though possessing different qualifications, certificates, and knowledge. She thought the college could do useful work by bringing within its fold nurses of all grades, with a recognized minimum standard of practical and theoretical efficiency, at the same time enabling a nurse to specialize, and to be recognized as "trained" in various branches of nursing. She recommended independent examinations distinct from those of the training schools, and that there should be at least two, the final admitting to qualification in various "schools," just as was the case at the universities with regard to final degree examinations. Specialities should be specially registered, so that the public might know for what the nurse was fitted and employ her accordingly. A short discussion followed.

RED CROSS WORK IN THE COUNTY OF LONDON.

The County of London Branch of the British Red Cross Society has issued a report on its work during the first seventeen months of war. A large part of its eighty pages is concerned with the eighteen Voluntary Aid Detachment hospitals which the branch has established in the county area. (Since December, 1915, the end of the period covered by the report, we believe that the number has grown to twenty-three.) The largest of these hospitals is that handed over to the Kensington Division of the branch by the trustees of the Weir Hospital Charity; it has 150 beds, and the report claims for it that it is one of the best hospitals of its kind in England. The other hospitals are mostly private houses which have been lent for the purpose, and accommodate each from thirty to fifty patients. Up to the end of 1915 the admissions to the hospitals numbered close upon 3,000. Other forma

of work undertaken by the branch have included general service in military hospitals and the forming of squads of Red Cross men to assist in the transport of the injured across London; the report records with pride that among the injured thus assisted was His Majesty the King. The only grudging word in the report is a reference to the disadvantage under which a County of London branch must labour owing to the comparative lack of local patriotism in the youngest of the counties; but with twenty-one divisions all keenly at work, and Voluntary Aid Detachments at a strength of above 7,000, not to speak of 350 members serving abroad, even the conglomerate boroughs which make up London ought to feel that they have here something in common and to be proud of.

Scotland.

DR. ROBERT A. FLEMING has been appointed on the staff of officers of the King's Body Guard for Scotland (Royal Company of Archers) vice Dr. William Allan Jamieson, deceased.

At a meeting of the Aberdeen University Court on June 13th Principal Sir George Adam Smith announced that the University had accepted an offer of Sir J. R. D. McGrigor to convey to the University a painting of the quadrangle of Marischal College as it was before the recent additions, and including the obelisk which used to stand there before it was removed to the Duthie Park. The Principal said they accepted it as a memorial of Sir James McGrigor, one of the most illustrious medical graduates of the University. The painting is by the late Mr. J. Giles, a well known Aberdeen artist, and is dated 1861. McGrigor was chief of Wellington's medical staff in the Peninsular War. An account of him appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of July 25th, 1914. McGrigor was Director-General from 1815 to 1851, and did much for the reform of the medical service of the army. He was described by Wellington as "one of the most industrious, able, and successful public servants I have ever met with."

THE SCOTTISH RED CROSS BRANCH.

A deputation, headed by Major David Wallace, C.M.G., R.A.M.C.(T.), which at the request of the Executive of the Scottish Red Cross Branch recently paid a visit to France, has reported very favourably on the work of the Scottish units. At Rouen they noted great improvements in the accommodation of the staff, and the general air of comfort and amenity of the grounds and buildings of the Scottish hospital, and found the Scottish convoy was undertaking all the motor ambulance work in the centre. They inspected the personnel and cars, which number over one hundred, and were satisfied with the arrangements for the maintenance and repair of vehicles. They were informed by the D.D.M.S. that the work of the convoy was highly appreciated. In Paris they visited the Hôpital de l'Ecosse, carried on by the branch since September, 1915. They found that it was working in a most satisfactory manner, and was highly appreciated by the French military authorities. A Scottish convoy of thirty ambulances has been working on the French front since the beginning of this year, and has earned golden opinions from the Minister of War. The branch has recently presented an x-ray ambulance car to the French, another to the Russians, and three for the use of our own troops. Each has a complete x-ray apparatus and a portable tent, and is designed for use immediately behind the firing line.

Ireland.

A MIDWIVES BILL FOR IRELAND.

At a special meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, held on Friday, June 16th, the President and Fellows unanimously adopted a resolution urging on the Government the pressing necessity which exists for the passing of a Midwives Bill for Ireland, which is now the only part of the United Kingdom without legislative control of midwives. Such a bill is needed to protect lying-in women, to control infant mortality, and to enable

Irish trained midwives to take their proper place in the ranks of the registered midwives of the United Kingdom. The Parliamentary Committee of the College was empowered to take such steps as might be deemed necessary to help forward such legislation.

Sydney.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND THE WAR.

At a recent meeting of the Senate of the University of Sydney a communication was received from the University of Queensland in regard to the award of university scholarships and medals to children of alien parentage during the continuance of the war, and asking for co-operation between the universities to secure the objects aimed at. It was resolved:

That, in the opinion of the Senate, it is not desirable that public endowments in the form of public exhibitions, scholarships, bursaries, medals, or prizes should be awarded to persons of enemy parentage who are unable to produce satisfactory proof of naturalization with complete release from their obligations of allegiance to the country of their birth or descent.

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND THE NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Political Labour League has been holding its annual conference in Sydney, and its proceedings have been marked by some extraordinary speeches and votes. At one of the sessions a letter was received from the Minister of Education, Mr. Griffith, asking that the conference should be given an opportunity of discussing the question of the British Medical Association and the medical treatment of school children. A member obtained a suspension of the standing orders to move the following:

That this conference extends its unstinted support to the Government in resisting the attempts of the British Medical Association to prevent the medical treatment of defective school children by their threats of the boycott of those members accepting appointments for that purpose.

Permission was given to Mr. Griffith to speak on the matter. He stated that, as the result of an inspection by a travelling clinic, the parents of 57,000 school children were notified that their children were physically defective. After twelve months, 40,000 of these children were still without treatment. If not attended to, the defects would become permanent. In most cases the lack of treatment was due to the want of means to pay the heavy fees charged by the medical practitioners. In the country it was worse because often treatment could not be obtained. Money for a travelling clinic was voted by Parliament, and medical men were advertised for. The British Medical Association had said it would give permission to its members to do the work, provided that the parents of the children certified that they were not able to pay for treatment. He (Mr. Griffith) resented this as putting a brand of pauperism on certain children. Later on the British Medical Association had decided to "black-ball" those doctors who did the work. As a response he had obtained permission to bring in legislation to provide that any registered medical practitioner who refused to meet the Government doctors in consultation would lose his own registration. It was of enormous importance to give the children a chance in life. It had been said that the State could not afford the money, but he replied that the country could not afford to have 40,000 children growing up with physical defects. He would rather send to Chir. for medical men than allow it. It had been stated that the British Medical Association was a kind of trades union, and that it had a sneaking regard for the unionists. It was not, however, a trade union, but a medical combine. The fight against the British Medical Association was going to be a bitter one, and he hoped for the unanimous support of the unionists and leagues.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Griffith reiterated in this speech a statement which does not accurately express the position taken up by the profession. The British Medical Association has never refused to treat these defective children, but insists that the