The Canada Lancet

Vol. LIII

TORONTO, AUGUST, 1920

No. 12

EDITORIAL

"LONDON DOCTORS ESTABLISH RECORD"

The press despatches brought the following item of news from London.

"One of the most extraordinary undertaking in London's medical annals was successfully carried out to-day at the Orphanage of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Mount Hope, when one hundred and three of the children were operated upon for the removal of tonsils and adenoids by volunteer surgeons assisted by volunteer anaesthetists, nurses and nuns. All operations, other than emergency cases at St. Joseph's Hospital were postponed for the day and operating tables and equipment were removed to the orphanage. Drs. Septimus Thomson and W. J. Stevenson, were in charge of the proceeding, with a dozen other doctors assisting. The work was concluded in the one hundred and three cases by 12 noon. Dr. Thomson having established what is believed to be a record by removing tonsils and adenoids from sixty-three children in three hours averaging one operation every three minutes for the entire period. To-night all of the children are reported as in a satisfactory condition and they enjoyed their first food, a small ration of ice cream, at midnight."

It is a matter of deep regret that all the foregoing details should appear in the daily lay press. It would have been infinitely better if the London doctors had removed these tonsils in the usual quiet way. It was not at all necessary to notify the newspapers to have reporters at the institution, or to prepare a "reader" for the press. This sort of thing cannot be too severely condemned.

MIRACLE CURES.

In our july issue we referred to the visit of Mr. James Moore Hickson to Toronto, and the attention given to the numerous cripples, etc., who appeared before him. We suggested that a representative committee be appointed without delay to investigate the present condition