

the timely words of our beloved General Superintendent with which I set out: "We do well when we vigilantly and honestly advance and graduate our probationers."

JOSEPH HALL.

NAVAL AND MILITARY WORK AT ESQUIMALT,

An Appeal to the Readers of the Recorder.

The enthusiasm of young and old throughout the British Empire has been aroused to a very high pitch since the outbreak of the war in South Africa, and almost every individual throughout our vast Empire has been thrilled by the deeds of valor performed by both soldiers and sailors, including, of course, our Colonial volunteers.

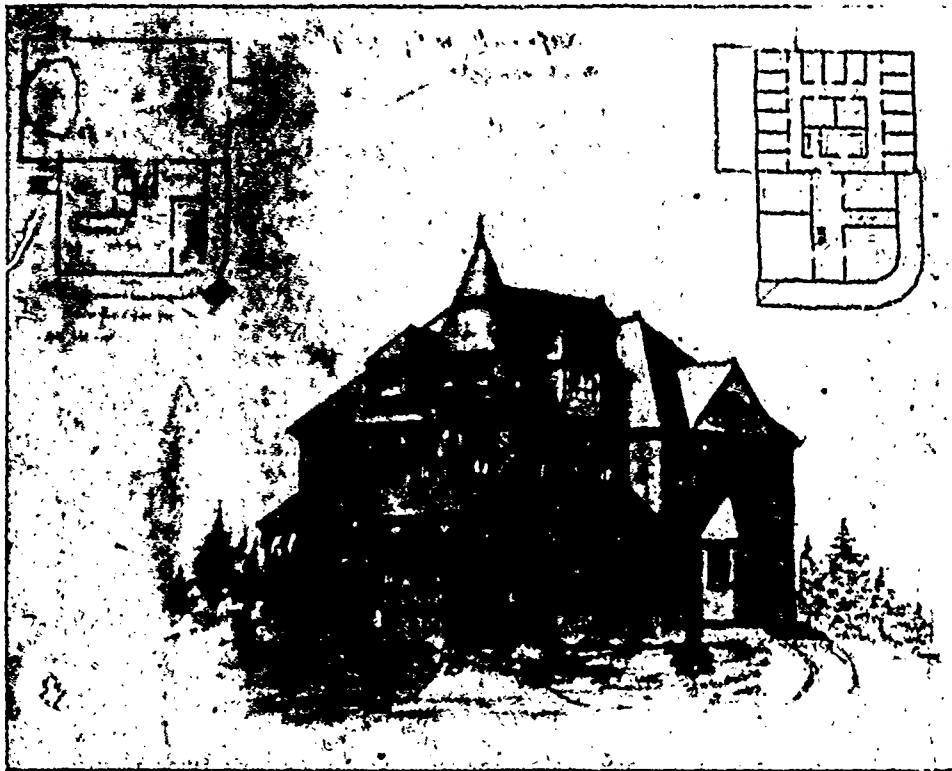
Sailors' Homes.

For nearly ten years a parade service for the Wesleyans of H. M. Ships of the Pacific fleet has been held in a hall rented for the purpose in Esquimalt, and the constantly growing numbers of Wesleyans, together with the constant appeals of the men irrespective of religious denominations, has fully convinced all who are interested in the spiritual and temporal welfare of our brothers whose lives are given for the defence of our Empire that a Church and a Home must be provided if this work is to be successfully carried on.

In the army and navy there are four recognized religions, the Church of England, Wesleyan, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic, and all work among and for Wesleyans (Methodists) is performed under the direction of the Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee, a committee appointed by the Wesleyan Methodist Con-

gregation and sailor in Her Majesty's service has free access to the uses and privileges of these homes, in which there are reading rooms, games rooms, in which will be found suitable indoor games, smoking rooms, refreshment rooms, and sleeping accommodation. In all respects great pains are taken to make them as much like home to the men as possible, and the charges for food and sleeping accommodation are kept as low as possible. It must be borne in mind that soldiers and sailors are not highly paid men.

The garrisoning of Esquimalt by Imperial troops is another strong reason why such a building should be erected as soon as possible; we have already over one hundred and fifty soldiers here and their numbers will be largely increased as soon as accommodation can be provided for them. It is not necessary to point out the temptations to sin and vice that beset men on every hand; they are



The Proposed Soldier's and Sailor's Home, at Esquimalt.

Thanks to Rudyard Kipling, son of Methodist parents, public sympathy has taken a practical form in the Kipling Poem Fund, Canadian Patriotic Fund, Mansion House Fund, Daily Telegraph Fund, etc., by means of which the men on the battlefield and their wives and children at home have, I may say, for the first time realized that those for whom they are fighting have woke up to the fact that they have a duty to perform toward them.

There are, however, other ways of benefiting these brave fellows, and in this direction the duty devolving upon the public generally needs only to be pointed out to elicit their hearty response. I refer to the great need of Soldiers' and

ference of Great Britain to look after the interests of Methodists and Methodist work in the army and navy, and it is with this committee that the War Department and the Admiralty transact all business in connection with army and navy work on behalf of the Methodist Church throughout the Empire.

In establishing Soldiers' and Sailors' Homes the Methodist Church has come well to the front. In all the principal naval and military stations throughout the Empire such homes have been established excepting at Esquimalt. These homes and the property on which they stand are held in trust under a model deed for the special benefit of men of the army and navy, that is to say, every

only too well known to all, but what is there for the soldier and sailor but the saloon, music hall, etc.? He is among strangers, a few may form acquaintances, but very few; where can the many go, or what can they do? Men get tired of walking the roads or streets, and just as tired of staying on board ship or in barracks; they have left homes, and many of them good homes, and naturally they long for some place to resort to that savors somewhat of home.

It may be argued that many men would not avail themselves of its friendly shelter; possibly some would not, but experience shows that the majority do, and the percentage of men in the army and navy who desire to command the respect