

**"LEND  
A . . . .  
HAND"**

**FOR  
HUMANITY'S  
SAKE.**



NURSING STAFF OF S. A. WOMEN'S HOSPITAL, TORONTO.  
Note that in this institution, as in all Salvation Army maternity homes, the nurses wear the regulation uniforms of all hospitals.

**"LEND  
A . . . .  
HAND"**

**"TO THE  
LEAST OF  
THESE."**

**THEY KNOW THE NEED**

**THEY APPROVE THE REMEDY**

**Medical Men of St. John's Strongly Commend Maternity Home Project to Favorable  
Attention of Our People--Read Their Signed Manifesto Given Below.**

SOME weeks ago, a number of the registered medical practitioners of the city of St. John's attended by invitation a meeting at the residence of Dr. Macpherson to consider the Salvation Army proposition for a maternity hospital as presented by the representative of that organization, Staff-Captain W. H. Burrows.

The subject was considered first from the standpoint of necessity. On this point there was absolute agreement of opinion and the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That the establishment of a maternity hospital in the city of St. John's is desirable and necessary and meets with the approval and support of the medical profession of the city."

The meeting considered the question of the attitude of those present as medical practitioners to the proposition that the Salvation Army build and administer such a maternity institution. This point was fully discussed, the meeting being told of the experiences of a number of practitioners in connection with the Salvation Army institution now operated here. These doctors strongly commended the methods of the Salvation Army in this connection, they claimed that the organization gave their patients the very best professional service and that they could be trusted to administer properly from every standpoint the institution in

which it was proposed to carry on the work on a larger scale and with even more up-to-date methods.

The following motion was then carried: "That in the opinion of the medical practitioners of St. John's the scheme of the Salvation Army for a maternity hospital is feasible, desirable and commendable."

Now that the organizers of the movement are about to appeal to the general public for support, the undersigned registered medical practitioners who approve of the scheme, think it advisable and necessary, for the assurance of the success of the movement, to inform our citizens generally as to their reason for endorsing the plan of the Salvation Army to construct a large, modern and well-equipped maternity hospital in St. John's.

No reasonable layman, and certainly no experienced medical practitioner, can honestly declare that the necessity for a maternity hospital in St. John's does not exist. Such an institution is the one great essential for coping effectively with the problem of healthy and comfortable motherhood of survival of new-born infants and of child welfare generally.

Our citizens know that one of the great obstacles to comfortable, and healthy living generally in this city is to be found in extremely backward housing conditions. And if these conditions militate so strongly against the health of youth and adults it surely

is evident that they severely trammel both the mother and infant who are struggling towards health from the trials and extreme weakness of recent childbirth. There are hundreds of houses in St. John's to-day in which unhealthy and uncomfortable conditions threaten to turn the scales completely against the mother and the infant.

An adequate and properly conducted maternity hospital such as the Salvation Army proposes to construct and maintain will give many of these people a fighting chance for life and for the up-building of health and strength to a degree commensurate with the trials and demands of after life.

The problem of obtaining properly trained nurses for service during confinement and for the treatment of mother and child afterwards, is one of the most difficult the medical profession of the city have to face. It is frequently impossible, (no matter what salaries are offered, or how desirable the home conditions in which services are to be rendered), to obtain efficient nurses to look after expectant mothers. The result is that there are now practising in the city and throughout the country, women who pose as midwives, who have had neither the experience nor the training essential to the due performance of their most important tasks. With a maternity

home established in the city, the proper training of midwives can be undertaken. This privilege would be one not only available to St. John's but to all sections of the country, whence suitable women can be brought under government auspices, trained in the maternity home, and sent back to their homes, where their services would be available to the very large number of mothers who cannot get the skilled services of doctors during the confinement period.

It might be pointed out, too, that such a maternity home as the Salvation Army proposes to establish here would also afford nurses in training at the General Hospital opportunity to complete their training on a basis which would afford them recognition in Canada and the United States, a privilege which the Newfoundland diploma does not confer on them, because they lack training in midwifery.

From a professional standpoint there appears to us to be no real reason for objection to be found in the fact that two classes of cases are to be treated at the proposed Salvation Army maternity home. The wards for the two classes are kept entirely distinct. Entirely separate staffs are maintained. Even the entrances are separate. There is as much reason for objecting to a general hospital because certain classes are admitted there as there is for objecting to a maternity home because in one of its depart-

ments rescue cases are looked after.

We regard the scheme of the Salvation Army for a maternity hospital as feasible, because this organization has had practical experience along those lines throughout the world and has shown in its present institution its great capability for administering such institutions scientifically and in a generally satisfactory manner; we regard the scheme as desirable because of the great needs it will meet and satisfy; and we commend it because, in our opinion it will confer tremendous benefits upon all classes of our population.

We do not anticipate that the Salvation Army institution will result in the complete abolition of the drawbacks under which family life labors in this country. We do regard it as a step towards that desirable result—the first practical step that has been proposed. We are anxious to see this movement for a maternity home succeed, because the proposition is a definite one and places within our reach means of early relief from many of the drawbacks under which mothers and children labor in this city and throughout the country generally.

For many reasons, therefore, the registered medical practitioners of this city urge upon the public generally the duty and the privilege of subscribing to the fund now being raised for the erection and the equipment of a Salvation Army maternity hospital.

**SIGNED:--Thomas Anderson, F. W. Burden, A. Campbell, H. H. Cowperthwaite, J. G. Duncan, N. S. Fraser, J. MacDonald, H. M. Mosdell, Cluny Macpherson, W. H. Parsons, H. Rendell, W. Roberts, W. T. Scully.**

**"Lend A Hand" Give Even More Than You Can Spare!**