

culosis. On the contrary, alcohol is a direct as well as an indirect predisposing factor in this disease.

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### MOBILIZATION OF DOCTORS IN BRITAIN.

From the journals and newspapers of Great Britain, we learn much of the needs of the hour. Among other subjects calling for attention is the medical care of the sick and wounded soldier and sailor.

With the growing numbers of wounded from the front as Britain's army expands and the spheres of operations increase, this country is faced with a dearth of doctors, and the strain on the medical men left to look after the civilian population is becoming heavier every day.

Seeing that the needs of the army must be attended to first, this strain is bound to increase, and a movement is now on foot to get Lord Derby to assume the organization of the civilian medical service so as to free more doctors for the army by promoting greater efficiency and better organization at home.

The scheme, which is supported by a great many leading men in the medical world who see that much energy is wasted by its being directed into wrong channels, is to divide the entire medical strength of the country into groups somewhat on the lines of Lord Derby's system of recruiting. It is proposed to divide the doctors into the following three groups, according to age and physical fitness:

A—For service with the army and navy abroad.

B—For service with the army at home.

C—For civilian and public health, asylum and prison duties.

In group A it is proposed to place all those under 35 years of age, who are physically fit for service with the army in the field; in group B all those under 50 years of age, and in group C the remainder of the medical profession, including women doctors.

The strength of the medical profession in the British Isles is known. There are about 30,000 medical men on the register all told, and these 30,000 include the men who have retired from active practice. On them has fallen the responsibility of serving the sick and wounded from armies now to be raised to 4,000,000 men, and at the same time of providing for the needs of the civilian population on the British Isles of about 40,000,000 souls.

At least one-half of the entire body of the medical profession has now been called for service with the army and navy. The strain on the half left to look after the civilians has been carried to the limit,