

Editorial Efforts

A VILLAGE UNDER ONE ROOF

HOW many of the readers of this magazine have ever given a thought to the management of a large military hospital? Picture to yourselves for a moment, a town or village with a population of from ten to fifteen hundred souls. There you have a mayor and councillors, the various professional men, mills and shops, one or more banks, hotels and churches, as well as all the other institutions that go to make up a village of this description. The average payroll in a great many places would be about fifteen thousand dollars per month.

On the other hand, let us take a look into a military hospital. A large building is secured capable of housing fifteen hundred men, a population of grown-ups, as large as one of the above described villages, and homes are made for them under one roof. Every foot of space, from the basement to the topmost floor, is utilised, the departments being arranged systematically. Apart from the medical officers who have charge of departments requiring the various forms of treatment, the management of this "town" is carried on by a comparatively small staff of officers. First there is the Commanding Officer, then the Adjutant, Padre, Quarter-master, Registrar, and the Paymaster. The Commanding Officer is the direct responsible head of the institution, and as such carries a heavy responsibility. He has a perfect knowledge at all times, not only of the ability, but of the deportment as well, of every individual under his charge. The Adjutant is generally the hardest worked official, being the representative of the O.C. he has a tremendous amount of detail work to look after in the carrying on of every-day hospital life. The Quarter-master's department involves a great deal of energy; from here are issued the food and clothing, as well as all other necessary supplies along this line, the wastage at all times being kept down to a minimum. In the Registrar's office an accurate record is kept of the incoming and outgoing of every individual, the system being well nigh perfect. The Padre is also a very busy man, with a congregation numbering over a thousand, he is ever going about doing good. The Paymaster looks after the payment of the men, which means an average payroll of about twenty thousand dollars per month.

THE EDITOR.