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EDITORIAL

HOSPITAL NEEDS IN FRANCE.

Most of us knew that the need for hospital supplies in France was very great, but few realized how very great it was until Dr. L. E. Brown-Landone visited Toronto a couple of weeks ago. He spoke with authority, as he came from the scene of action in the northeast of France.

He accentuated the extreme need that exists for such articles as iodine, chloroform, bandages, antiseptics, and surgical instruments. The whole region from Calais to Havre was almost one continuous hospital system, and there were in it 65 hospital centres. He said that in this region there would be cared for a quarter of a million wounded and sick soldiers. If these men could be properly cared for their convalescence would be hastened and the death rate much reduced. These men are the best type of soldiers, as they are the seasoned veteran, and are of greater value than the new recruit.

It was pointed out that France was doing her best, but there was so much to be done that she could not overtake it all. This made any form of help from other countries very welcome. One of the urgent requirements of the day was more nurses. There were hospitals with as many as 500 cases and not a single trained nurse. This was due to the fact that there were so many wounded that there were not a sufficient number of nurses to go round.

Dr. Brown-Landone said that Britain was doing her full share, but the demands on her vessels for the transportation of food to her own troops and the Belgians, and the conveying home of the wounded were so numerous that she could not always forward nurses, ambulances and supplies for the hospitals. Many motor ambulances were in Britain ready to go to France, but for the foregoing reason could not find transportation.

Another feature that was adding to the burden of the hospitals in