

the most hopeful cases. The work is carried on under the direct supervision of the London County Council, but Lady Henry holds an advisory relation to the home and is deeply interested in the plan for the redemption of some of these outcasts of London's population. The methods employed and the treatment given are of her planning. Each patient is assigned to some kind of work, laundry, sewing, or housework, for which she is paid a small sum per week. While the wages are not large, they are sufficient to incite to faithful effort. As a rule, the patients know nothing about laundry-work, sewing, or the simplest kind of housework, but they readily yield to persuasion and soon become interested in the acquisition of these simple arts. These women never had a "best dress;" in fact, when committed to the home their wardrobe invariably consisted of the apparel they had on. They were all furnished with the materials long enough before the holidays so that, by working during their spare hours, from six to eight P.M., they were enabled to finish a "best dress" in time to wear it at Christmas-time. Of the thirty-one who were given this opportunity only four failed to have their dresses completed by the appointed time. The ages of the women committed to the institution during the past year range from twenty to forty-five years, more than two-thirds of them being between thirty and forty years of age. They have been consigned to the home for periods ranging from six months to three years. Being obliged to conform to regular habits of eating and sleeping, as well as regular hours for light labor and the discontinuance of intemperate habits, the health of the patient has invariably improved. All of the women have been more or less subject to minor troubles, but there has not been a death nor a single serious illness in the home during the year. The segregation and special treatment of this class of London's criminal classes has been looked upon in the nature of an experiment, but those who were disposed to doubt its wisdom a year ago have expressed their approval, and Lady Henry Somerset is so well pleased with the results of the first year's efforts that she will recommend the enlargement of the home and the committal of a larger class of intemperate women.

A Substitute for the Canteen

General A. S. Daggett, whose letter against the sale of beer and light wine in the army canteens was summarized in these columns last month, has written another letter to the "Army and Navy Journal" in response to its suggestion that he should propose a substitute for the institution he condemned. His second letter is as compact as his first, and his answer to the direct question put to him can here be reprinted entire:

(1) Establish ample and attractive reading-rooms, which may be the general places of resort, and where games and facilities for all sorts of proper social enjoyments can be found. (2) Establish ample and attractive gymnasiums. (3) Encourage and give facilities for all proper kinds of manly sports. (4) Require the Commissary Department to supply many of the luxuries now furnished by means of the company fund.

The programme here outlined for satisfying the soldiers' cravings for sociability and good fellowship must commend itself to all factions, for those who object most strongly to the old canteen cannot object to the restoration of the features here urged, and those who believe most strongly in restoring the sale of fermented liquor cannot but welcome the restoration of the facilities for recreation which the profits of the canteen have for several years provided. The only conceivable objection is that from the standpoint of the taxpayers; but when it is recollected that the wages of the common soldiers aggregate less than one-sixth of the army appropriation, and that the canteen profits on beer, which have defrayed other recreation expenses, have been but a small part of the soldiers' wages spent on beer, it is clear that the cost of maintaining such army clubs as General Daggett recommends would be very small. General Daggett expresses the belief that if army life were made attractive in a wholesome way, without offering fermented liquor to the recruits, a better class of volunteers could be secured and a better army built up.



Brigands and Missionaries

Deep interest has been excited by the recent capture by brigands of a band of missionaries in the mountains between Bulgaria and Turkey. There were sixteen persons in this party. After their detention for some days, all were released

but two. One of the two was Miss Stone, an American Board (Congregational) missionary from Boston, who for the past quarter of a century has been laboring with signal success at Salonika and elsewhere in Turkey. Her companion was Madame Tsilka, a beautiful Bulgarian woman, also a missionary, and the wife of an Albanian missionary who had received his English theological education at Union Seminary in New York City. The fate of Madame Tsilka is unknown, but for the ransom of Miss Stone the brigands have demanded twenty-five thousand Turkish pounds, a sum equal to about a hundred and twelve thousand dollars in our money. Both the American Board and the American Department of State were entirely right in refusing to pay this sum; it would have been unfortunate for either to have created such a precedent. A popular subscription, however, is quite a different matter. So earnest and profound is the sympathy for this refined and self-sacrificing woman thus exposed to danger and hardships that on Saturday morning of last week, when a subscription for Miss Stone's ransom was started, more than twenty thousand dollars were subscribed before noon in Boston alone. The subscriptions now reach fifty thousand dollars. Some bitter remarks have been made about the responsibility of the Bulgarian Government, especially in view of the fact that almost every one connected with that Government has received an education at the American Robert College in Constantinople. Bulgarian responsibility, however, is not so great as might appear, for it is believed that the brigands form a part of lawless Macedonian bands which find their activity now on one side, now on the other, of the Turko-Bulgarian boundary. Some well-informed persons claim that quite as much knowledge of the affair may be found at Constantinople as at Sofia. At the latter capital, however, the Bulgarian Government is ostensibly showing signs of interest. We trust that the pressure now being brought to bear upon it and upon Turkey by the State Department may prove fruitful. Although our Department had already taken up the matter vigorously, President Roosevelt, after consulting with Messrs. Capen and Smith, of the American Board, laid a fresh

injunction upon Acting Secretary Adee to spare no efforts to accomplish the purpose in view. The measures to be adopted are kept secret for the present, but are believed to be uncommonly drastic.



The Episcopal Convention

The first week's work of the Episcopal Triennial Convention, which is holding its sessions at San Francisco, included the adoption of several articles of the proposed new constitution. Specially keen discussion occurred in regard to Section 3 of Article I., which provides that the senior bishop in order of consecration shall be the Presiding Bishop of the Church. This was strongly disapproved by some of the Western delegates, who, with others, desired a method by which a younger man might be put in that position, contending that it needs not only a man of progressive ideas, but one of great activity. They quoted the words of Bishop Clark, of Rhode Island, the present Presiding Bishop, who, in his triennial report, suggested that it would be for the best interests of the Church if there were some other mode of selecting a presiding prelate. Bishop Clark is ninety years old, and his age has prevented him for some time past from giving all the attention necessary to the duties of his office. The present order, however, will be maintained, although some provision must be made by which the Presiding Bishop will be relieved of the actual details now upon him. Of the other subjects, those included in Articles II., III., and VII. elicited special interest and discussion. Article II. provides for the manner of electing diocesan and missionary bishops, and requires a priest to have attained the age of thirty-five years before consecration. Article III. provides that bishops may be consecrated for foreign lands on due application therefrom, with the approval of a majority of the bishops of the Church. Article VII. provides for the organization of provinces in such a manner and under such conditions as shall be ordered by canons of the General Council, provided, however, that no diocese shall be included in the province without its consent. On Saturday the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies united in a joint meeting as a