

HOSPITAL DONATED FOR WAR CRIPPLES

Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Freeman Give Their Large Estate at Iselin, N. J.

DR. F. H. ALBEE IN CHARGE

Arrangements to Be Made So 2,000 Patients Can Be Accommodated.

When the men who go to France begin to come back crippled by bone wounds, or with an arm or leg missing, it is the desire of the Government to give them such treatment that they can be restored to their former sphere of usefulness in the world, their missing limbs supplied if possible, and a trade taught them so they will be able to regain their self-confidence and not feel that their sacrifices for their country have left them helpless dependents.

To meet this need three reconstruction hospitals will be built or made out of private homes given for the purpose by men of means, and the first to be ready for use will probably be that of Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Freeman at Iselin, N. J., a 600-acre estate on high ground, covered with woods and pleasant fields, an ideal place in which men may be brought back to health. It is expected the house will accommodate 250 patients when it is opened under the auspices of the Red Cross the last of August, and bungalows will be built in sufficient number to take care of 2,000 patients.

The hospital will be under the direction of Dr. F. H. Albee, whose work in bone surgery has gained him renown in that field. In the New York Medical Journal Dr. Albee describes the functions of such a hospital and speaks with gratification of this gift of a home ideally suited for the work.

Stirred by Patriotism.

Stirred by a fine patriotic fervor and actuated by motives of intense loyalty and devotion to their country, Dr. Albee, Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Freeman have tendered to the United States Government, through the writer, their magnificent estate. This estate, situated on high ground in the Pennsylvania railroad, is situated on high ground, far from the noise of the city; it possesses all the facilities for orthopedic, vocational and functional reconstruction and reduction, and can accommodate from 500 to 2,000 men if necessary.

The work of restoring men to the fullest possible use of their limbs or giving them such substitutes that they may be able to do some work in the world is regarded by army medical officers and by the general public as one of the most important of medical work in the war. Since the first days of the war this branch of the service has been wonderfully improved in England and France under the leadership of the ablest surgeons in the world. Many American surgeons of international reputation, such as Dr. Joseph Blake and Dr. Alexis Carrel, who are at the Rockefeller Institute, have devoted the greater part of their time to war surgery in the last three years and have introduced some marvelous substitutes for parts of the human body.

Mr. Freeman when war was declared at once recognized the importance of this work, and after talking with Dr. Albee, who lives near him, made the offer of his home to the Government. Dr. Albee has been one of the largest contributors to making life easier for crippled soldiers. He is the inventor of a circular saw used in amputating and splicing bones which has revolutionized bone surgery. Last year at the invitation of the French government he spent three months in France holding clinics at various base hospitals, and his method has resulted in restoring to use many an arm or leg which would probably otherwise have been lost.

Place Well Adapted.

Mr. Freeman's home is singularly well adapted for use as a restoration hospital, so much so indeed, that the only work necessary to be done on it is the moving of Mr. Freeman's household goods and the installation of hospital equipment. The main part of the rooms will have to be altered in the least, and army officers who have seen it say if it had been built with the idea of some time turning it into a hospital it could not have been built in a better way. In the center of the house, for instance, is a large hall, sixty-five feet long and thirty-five feet wide, which runs up two stories and is perfectly adapted for war purposes. On the second floor a gallery runs about the hall with many rooms opening from it. The X-ray and operating rooms will be on the second floor and are so conveniently arranged that they will not have to be changed in the least.

One of the best features of the house from a hospital point of view is the piazza, which runs for 100 feet along one side. The rooms of the second floor on that side open onto the piazza roof, which forms a balcony, and the two levels will provide sufficient accommodation for patients who are well enough to be wheeled out into the air and sunshine for a part of the day. In addition to the house and bungalows there will be buildings where braces and artificial limbs will be manufactured and a gymnasium in which the men can slowly work their strained muscles back to strength. Also there will be a building in which they can be taught trades for which their condition may fit them, so when they go back into the world they will be able to support themselves.

300 Acres Available.

The grounds of the estate are also well suited to the work of the hospital. When the work begins 300 acres will be at the disposal of the War Department, and if more is needed 300 acres additional will be turned over. Part of the land is covered with thick woods, through which wind paths and roads on which recovering patients can be wheeled by attendants and volunteer workers. The house itself is surrounded by evergreens so in winter the heat will not have to be lost out on a bleak expanse of leafless trees. The hospital will of course be under the direction of the Red Cross, which organization will have the cooperation of the Mercy Committee of New Jersey, an organization formed with branches in many towns before the war to care for the sick and injured. When the war started this committee turned its attention to sending relief to the women and children of France and Belgium, and a part of the work in the future will be to continue such supplies as it is best fitted to handle.

Man Dies in Bathing.

Expecting to pay his regular Sunday morning visit to his grandfather, Israel Harry Oator of 1814 Belmont avenue, entered the bath yesterday to find the man dead in the bathtub. He had been alone in the bath while members of his family went for a Sunday outing.



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The Sign of a Reliable Dealer and the World's Best Gasoline

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