



Red Cross Appeal

Talking of rates and budgets [refers to a previous article], I am told by Lady Hervey, county president of the Wiltshire branch of the British Red Cross Society, that it is her responsibility to administer the work of the Society in the county, for which she does not receive a penny from the Society headquarters.

"In the course of our work we not infrequently hear it remarked that the work of the British Red Cross Society is confined to wartime, and that the establishment of the National Health Service has rendered all voluntary work in peace-time unnecessary," she says.

But as she points out, the Society is in fact remarkably busy in peacetime, and the work of its members supplements in many cases official efforts, and still more, brings relief to those whose need is untouched by them. "Our task and our privilege in peace as well as in war is the relief of suffering. To carry out this work and to train our adult and junior members costs money," she explains.

Once again we find that a nationalised scheme still leaves much ground for good work untouched. Voluntary contributions are still vital and, as Lady Hervey says to administer the work of the Society in Wilts she is entirely dependent on the generosity of the public, whom, she hopes, will respond to her appeal which will open next week.

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