

# Second Annual Report

OF THE

## SPHAGNUM DEPARTMENT

OF THE

# Irish War Hospital Supply Organisation

(Royal College of Science Sub-Depot),

ACTING AS THE

## CENTRAL SPHAGNUM DEPOT FOR IRELAND,

Registered under the Director-General of Voluntary  
Organisations,

AND

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# Irish War Hospital Supply

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE SUB-DEPOT.

## SPHAGNUM MOSS.

This moss is a cheap and absorbent dressing for wounds, as good as, or even better than cotton wool, and there is now a large demand for dressings made of it from hospitals at home and at the front.

### COLLECTING AND PREPARING.\*

**Locality.**—Sphagnum or Bog Moss is the commonest moss on peat bogs. While it is most common on the lowland bogs, it is also found on mountains wherever a peaty soil is present. It lives sometimes in bog pools but usually occurs in great masses amongst the heather. Most mosses are only damp, Sphagnum is generally soaking wet, and, when squeezed, parts with its moisture like a sponge.

**Appearance.**—The moss commonly grows in great cushions, which vary considerably in colour, being sometimes yellow, sometimes green and sometimes a lively red. There are several varieties on every bog, which differ greatly in usefulness, but as verbal descriptions are difficult to follow, arrangements have been made for supplying samples of the best kind. All who are willing to co-operate in collecting the moss should apply for these to the Hon. Secretary, Sphagnum Department, I.W.H.S. Sub-Depot, Royal College of Science, Dublin, or send samples for approval. No consignments of moss must be sent until a sample has first been approved.