

## Nursing Echoes.



Amongst the many entertainments at this season, none has been pleasanter than the At Home at Charing Cross Hospital, on Thursday in last week, given by the Nursing and Resident Staff. There is always a happy and genial, as well as professional, atmosphere about the Nursing Staff at Charing Cross Hospital, and from the Matron, Miss M. Heather Bigg, downwards, every one of the Nurses was concerned that the guests should have a good time; the Resident Medical Staff were also indefatigable hosts. The house concert, given in the out-patient hall, was of exceptional excellence, the humorous sketches of Mr. Barclay Gammon kept the audience in a constant ripple of laughter, some very clever crayon drawings done before the audience were greatly appreciated, and the harp solos by Mr. G. T. Miles were exquisite.

The fresh and neat uniforms of the Nursing Staff gave a pleasant and characteristic note to the audience, and another feature was the rows of convalescent patients in their scarlet jackets, who thoroughly enjoyed the proceedings.

At the close of the concert, tea and coffee—which covered very many other good things—were served to the guests. The sumptuous crackers, supplied by Messrs. Brock, who always give very generous terms to the hospital, added not a little to the fun and gaiety, for they contained all kinds of wonderful things, including musical instruments. We are certain that everyone present enjoyed the evening from start to finish.

On the afternoon of the same day, the Annual Christmas Tree took place at the London Homœopathic Hospital. On Christmas Eve the adult patients all had presents, and on New Year's Eve the Nurses had a most successful "At Home"; but Thursday in last week was the children's day, and right thoroughly they enjoyed it. Was there not a monster tree laden with every kind of delight, reaching right up to the ceiling, in Barton Ward—always one of the prettiest of children's wards—and the excitement reached its height when the good things were distributed by Mr. Knox Snaw, the visiting surgeon. "You should wish for what you want, Alice," said one small boy, ecstatically, to his next

door neighbour. "I wished for a box of soldiers, and I've got 'em."

There were presents for everybody, those for the medical staff apparently taking the form of medals—"so that they might not be jealous of the nurses," it was explained. Mr. Knox Shaw had a gold medal about the size of a largish bread trencher, and there were others of somewhat less generous proportions for various members of the staff. The Matron, Miss Clara Hoadley, who was indefatigable in looking after the visitors, received various gifts, while those bestowed on the nurses had been carefully selected, to judge from the laughter which greeted their announcement.

The musical At Home, given by Miss Banks, the Matron of the British Lying-in-Hospital, Endell Street, W.C., to the Nursing Staff and their friends, was a most successful function. With the guests, who included some of the honorary medical staff and members of the ladies' committee, those present numbered over seventy. The entrance hall and dining hall of the Nurses' Home, where the entertainment was held, were tastefully decorated, the fairy lights, lent by Messrs. Defries, adding much to the effect of the decorations, which were most successfully carried out by the Nursing Staff, who worked with a zeal worthy of all praise.

The "No Man's Orchestra" played selections of music, and the items on the programme included capital violoncello solos, songs, recitations, and conjuring, some of the guests brought by the ladies' committee giving valuable help. A most enjoyable evening ended with an impromptu dance.

Mrs. MacEwen, a member of the Registered Nurses' Society, and her sisters (who are not nurses) have taken a very nice house in Endsleigh Street, W.C., which is to be opened at an early date as a Home for Nurses. There is comfortable room for sixteen visitors, and the house is being done up and furnished in good style. No doubt, like the Nurses' Lodge, it will soon be fully occupied.

The Superintendent of St. Faith's, Ealing, desires to acknowledge with very grateful thanks the following sums for the sick nurse, whose need was recently notified in these columns: M.D., £1; M.H., 6s. 6d.; Millom, 5s.; M.T., 5s.

At the last meeting of the Kent Education Committee, a letter was read from the Hon. Secretary of the Kent County Nursing Association, submitting a memorandum upon an inter-

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