

take thought for the children who, though not sufficiently serious cases to be admitted to the wards, need rest and care after slight operations.

Will not some of those possessed of wealth come forward to help all this good work? If only it could be brought directly under their notice they could not fail to do so.

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

A growing feature of Christmas hospital festivities is the entertainment of the patients by the nursing staff. From many sources we hear of a wonderful display of histrionic talent, especially in high comedy. At the City of Westminster Infirmary, Hendon, where a very happy Christmas was spent, further festivities were arranged on Boxing Day, and on the 3rd inst. the nurses' entertainment to the patients was immensely appreciated. Every item on the programme was received with manifestations of enjoyment. The sketch "How the Vote Was Won" was rendered with great spirit by sisters and nurses. A pretty and effective item was a ragtime band of nurses dressed as pierrottes, who sang the choruses of the various songs. Sister Trueman, assistant matron, was stage manager, and at the close of the performance she was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers by the matron, Miss Elma Smith, on behalf of the performers as a slight mark of their appreciation.

The Annual Party for the nursing staff of St. Saviour's (Southwark) Infirmary took place on December 29th. For the concert one of the large wards had been cleared and fitted with a stage. The items given by the well-trained Nurses' Concert Party and friends, and the songs by the Welsh Trio, charmed the audience. A little sketch entitled "A Maid of All Work," acted by four probationers, received much applause, and "A Final Rehearsal," acted by five of the Sisters, caused great amusement. There were present some of the Guardians, Dr. and Mrs. Bruce, and the Matron, Miss Wallace. Refreshments were served in the Nurses' Mess Room, and later a dance, which all enjoyed thoroughly, ended a delightful social gathering.

The entertainment at the Chelsea Hospital for Women, S.W., on Saturday last brought to a close the Christmas festivities in this hospital. In the unavoidable absence of the President of the Ladies' Committee, the Countess of Ilchester, the visitors were received by Mr. T. Dyer Edwardes, Chairman of the Council, and Mrs. Dyer Edwardes. The corridors, decorated with fairy lamps and delicate greenery, looked charming, and the wards, in which the patients, although most of

them are serious operation cases, invariably seem happy, are always so homely and cheerful that they need but few additions to give them a festive air. Many of the patients were sufficiently convalescent to be present at an entertainment consisting of clever character and musical sketches by Mr. Charles Nott, which was thoroughly appreciated, and the beautifully decorated Christmas tree, glowing with coloured lights, bore gifts for both patients and nurses, provided by Dr. Fenton, the Senior Surgeon, and Mrs. Fenton. As usual, the Matron, Miss M. S. Riddell, and the Secretary, Mr. Herbert H. Jennings, were indefatigable in their exertions for the pleasure of the patients, and in their courtesy to the visitors.

At the Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary after the customary Christmas treat, provided by Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Maxwell—on the invitation of the matron, Miss Gordon—a large party of guests assembled to tea and to take part in the dismantling of a glorious Christmas tree. The members of the nursing staff thereafter entertained the patients to a musical and dramatic performance, in which the artistes acquitted themselves with great credit. The programme opened with music, and then the domestic comedy, "Slightly Mixed," was played with great success. The songs were much enjoyed, and another highly humorous sketch entitled "Apartments to Let" was exceedingly well played. A delightful and highly appreciated entertainment concluded with the singing of the part song, "A Regular Royal Queen," by the nurses.

Princess Christian, as President of St. George's Hospital, has given directions for an independent inquiry into the charges brought by certain governors at the Court of Governors on December 19th against the administration of the hospital by the treasurers, which had led to the resignation of the two treasurers, Lord Plymouth and Mr. A. William West. In these circumstances the two treasurers have consented to withhold their resignations for the present. To be "independent" the committee of enquiry should be held outside the institution by persons who have no connection with its management whatever. Let us hope this will be done.

Prince Arthur of Connaught will open the new National Hospital for Diseases of the Heart in Westmorland Street, Marylebone, on January 12th, at 3.15 p.m.

The dear old "gee gees" at the Home of Rest for Horses at Westcroft Farm, Cricklewood, had a delicious New Year's dinner at the cost of an anonymous donor. Apples, carrots, bread, biscuits and sugar comprised the bill of fare. "Max," who has been a pensioner for ten years, was in great form, and rang the bell for dinner.

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