

Diamond Fields." We may add it was a tremendous success, and the prizes well deserved.

The hospital stall aroused the greatest interest, the winning exhibit in the competition for groups was placed on this stall in the name of Miss J. C. Child (the Acting Matron). It consisted of a stand containing a "Long Tom" and a naval officer and four Jack Tars. The figures were splendidly presented, and the gun and stand was complete in every detail down to the neatly piled shells for the gun, and was labelled "The Handy Man at Field Gun Practice." Sisters Coxhead, Everest, and Haddock exhibited a group which obtained an award in the same competition, consisting of a nursing sister with child, a nurse, and a patient in bed. Needless to say, the "dressing" details were such as one would expect from a trio of experts. The nurse in this group (Sister Coxhead) took a special prize, awarded it on account of its splendid representation of a nursing sister.

Though modern playthings, dolls date from ancient times, when they were used in primitive worship. The Hurons worship carved wooden figures, as did the Virginian Indians. The Mexicans placed images in houses, streets, and on every hill to receive offerings, human sacrifices taking place in the temples. The Lapps believed that their dolls had power to walk—some of the present-day dolls do walk. The Ethiopians wondered why no blood was shed when the Christian Dieterich cut their dolls to pieces. The Kurile Islanders throw their dolls into the sea to allay storms; the negro feeds his and shares his profits with it, but beats it when unlucky or ill. Belief in spirit embodiment in dolls is prevalent in various parts of the world. The Polynesians believe absolutely that spirits dwell in dolls, and the Society Islanders place dolls in burial-places to receive the souls of the departed. In Buddhist Tibet and in Siam the practice exists of conjuring demons into dolls. In other places dolls are clothed with costly garments, and worshipped.

At the *Truth Doll Show* at the Royal Albert Hall next week, which is always a most popular function at this time of year, an interesting feature will be the representation of sections of wards in four children's hospitals—the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, the Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, the Alexandra Hospital, Queen Square, and the Queen's Hospital, Hackney Road, London. Cots of the actual size seen in the wards, and other fixtures in proportion, will be used in arranging these sections.

The School Nurses' League.

A concert, in aid of the School Nurses' Benevolent Fund was held in Horns Assembly Rooms, Kennington, on November 26th.

It was foretold that Venus was shedding her beneficent gleams upon all social gatherings given on that day, and certainly she crowned this concert with success, for everything went well to the entire satisfaction, we hope, of both audience and nurses.

The programme, under the auspices of Mr. Brown, the M.C., was excellent. Miss Constance Wrigley played two solos on the violin, in the rendering of which she displayed the qualities of a true artiste.

Miss Lillian Clarke gave, with promising voice, two songs, and Miss Thomas ably filled the place of Miss Baldock, who was prevented from appearing owing to illness.

Messrs. Roger Elley and Percy Banks each gave most pleasing and well rendered solos, and delighted the audience with their singing of the ever-popular duet, "Watchman, what of the night?"

Messrs. Charles Williams, Arnold, Collinson, and Harry Willis contributed largely to the success of the concert.

Mr. Bob Ison, in one of his amusing ditties, dedicated a special verse to the nurses, which met with much applause and laughter.

At the close of the concert, Miss Pearse, Superintendent of Nurses, in a few well chosen words, proposed a vote of thanks to all the artistes who had so kindly given their services. This was seconded, and met with loud cheers. A telegram was then handed in from an absent nurse, "Wishing the evening every success."

A short interval for refreshments followed, while the room was speedily cleared for the dancing, which was taken up with much "entertainment" by most of those present.

Here, again, we were indebted to Mr. Brown for his able conducting of the dances, the music for which was played by a band, composed of piano, violin, and cornet. A local touch of colour was supplied by six nurses in uniform, who acted as stewards, each wearing, as well as the artistes, knots of red and white flowers. The former sold the programmes, and sweets were displayed and sold, by Miss Margery Grant and Master Basil Clarke.

Miss Parkman acted as hostess to the artistes, and will have felt amply repaid for her untiring efforts, by the success attained.

Finally, we thank her and all the nurses who contributed so generously towards the Fund, which we hope to augment by a good round sum as a result of the effort.

A. G. L.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)