

The Hospital World.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

A very pleasant At-home was given at the London Homoeopathic Hospital on Thursday in last week, including an excellent concert in the new Board Room in the Sir Henry Tyler wing; the presentation of prizes in the nurses' examinations awarded by the Board of Management, by Lady Truscott; a supper served at small tables in the ward above, which was beautifully decorated by the nursing staff; and afterwards a dance in the Board Room, which was cleared for the purpose while supper was going on. Miss Hoadley, the Matron, and Mr. E. A. Attwood, the Secretary, are greatly to be congratulated on the perfection of the arrangements, especially when it is remembered that the new wing was used for the first time, and twenty-four hours previously was in a condition of chaos.

Sir George Wyatt Truscott, who responded to the vote of thanks to Lady Truscott, said that the new wing, when opened in June, would nearly double the capacity of the hospital. We are glad also to learn that one floor of rooms, not cubicles, is to be set apart for private patients.

The possible number of marks to be gained were 600, and the prizes were awarded as follows:—*Second year nurses*: 1st prize, Miss Vick (447 marks); 2nd prize, Miss Upton (441). *First year nurses*: 1st prize, Miss Rickleton (545); 2nd prize, Miss Kenwick (543). The presentation of the Gold Medal was postponed owing to the final examination not having taken place.

The production of "Sweet Lavender" for the patients at the Central London Sick Asylum, Cleveland Street, W., on Saturday last, by Mr. C. W. Pearson and a gifted cast, gave immense pleasure. The part of Lavender was charmingly played by Miss M. Hathaway, and of Clement Hale, the adopted son of Mr. Geoffrey Wedderburn, by Mr. H. H. Pearce. Mr. Pearson, as Dick Phenyl, the broken-down barrister, caused great amusement, his efforts at folding the table-cloth being greeted with shouts of laughter by the women patients present. It is through his good offices that after some vicissitudes the course of true love eventually runs smoothly for Clement and Lavender, as well as for other actors in the play. At its conclusion three hearty cheers were accorded to the performers, and on coming before the curtain Mr. Pearson received a great ovation. The Matron, Miss C. B. Leigh, who was indefatigable in ensuring everyone's happiness, afterwards entertained the visitors to tea.

A most successful concert was recently given in Ward B 5 of the Hackney Infirmary, and patients from other wards came in large numbers. Sister Waller, who is in charge of the ward, had gathered together a number of ladies and gentlemen who delighted the audience with their splendid talent. The humorous songs rendered by Mr. Fielder were received with enthusiasm, and the audience joined in the chorus heartily, whilst the Misses Harlock and Webster are to be congratulated on their clever accompaniments on a piano kindly lent by the Hackney Furnishing Company. Refreshments were provided for all the patients, and the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

The nursing staff of the General Hospital, Croydon, arranged a varied and delightful programme for the benefit of the patients on New Year's Eve, with a little assistance from members of the medical staff, which was thoroughly enjoyed, not only by the patients, but also by the large number of visitors, including Mr. Ian Malcolm, M.P., and Mrs. Malcolm, Sir Frederick and Lady Eldridge, and many others. Some very effective tableaux were given named "Past and Present," including a new and an old-time nurse, and other contrasts. Sisters Mary and Mark and a number of nurses, with Dr. Atkins and Dr. Davidson, all contributed to its success. The last item on the programme, a song and chorus, "There's a King in the Land" (the King of Cadonia) represented by Dr. Davidson, included a charming group representing England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales in national costumes. At the conclusion Sir Frederick Eldridge expressed the hearty thanks of the patients to the nurses for the charming, varied, and interesting entertainment they had given them, and, as a member of the Committee, said they were proud of their nursing staff, who not only did their work thoroughly and well, but also did everything they could to cheer their patients.

The Annual Treat given by Miss Purvis, the Lady Superintendent, and the nursing staff of the Middlesbrough Nurses' Home, to the poor children of the town, is always looked forward to with keen anticipation for months beforehand. This year, after the children had enjoyed a thoroughly substantial meal in the crypt of the Town Hall, the gifts from the great Christmas trees were distributed by the Marchioness of Zetland, who afterwards spoke a few words to the assembled children. Miss Purvis also saw that children who were unable to leave home were not forgotten, and special gifts were reserved for them.

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