

were gaily decorated, and throughout the day many pleasant visits were exchanged by patients and nursing staff.

"Each invalid unable to get up had the distinguished pleasure of an illuminated Christmas-tree all to himself; it certainly formed a very pretty evening scene to stand at the end of a ward of forty beds and see the twinkling lights amongst the trees and evergreens. Each tree, of course, bore its national colours—green, white, and red.

"Those well enough to be up visited other wards, and received presents from huge *alberi di Natale*. During the evening time passed very happily and all too quickly, with gramophones, games, and guessing competitions. Alas! eight o'clock and lights down, and with it came the night nurses. Reports were handed over, after which we all met in our charming dining-room and feasted upon the good things provided for our Christmas dinner. Our Matron, Miss Snell, presided, and Sister Watney (Home Sister) and her two nurse assistants were kept extremely busy attending to our appetites. Our glasses were raised to the healths of the King and Queen of Italy, our own King and Queen, the professors, *la Principessa Doria*, the Allies, and finally the cheers re-echoed for Miss Snell."

On Tuesday last the Bishop of Sheffield opened a Nurses' Club at 82, Brunswick Street, Havelock Square, Sheffield, which it is hoped will prove of much service to the nurses of the city, who at present have no centre where they can meet, or spend their time off duty. The subscription is 2s. 6d. per annum, for which the usual facilities of a club will be provided. Tea will be obtainable at 6d. per head. All members of the National Union of Trained Nurses received invitations for the opening ceremony, and an open invitation was extended to nurses in the city from 7 o'clock onwards, when the nurses gave a concert, and light refreshments were provided. The Committee includes the names of the Matrons of nearly all the hospitals in Sheffield, and the Hon. Secretary is Miss C. F. Payne.

It is proposed to raise a fund to commemorate the memory of Sister French, of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, who died on November 20th, after thirty-five years of loyal and devoted service. It is hoped to complete the panelling in the chancel, and to place a tablet in her ward. We do not doubt the memorial will be warmly supported.

SOME HOSPITALS I HAVE SEEN.

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THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, TORONTO.

It would be hard to find a children's hospital under management more efficient and treatment more scientific and up-to-date than the Children's Hospital, Toronto. Miss Potts, the Superintendent of Nurses, attended the San Francisco Convention, and we were very glad to meet her again. This Hospital, which is about to affiliate with the Isolation Hospital, contains 240 beds. There are 86 pupil nurses and 10 graduates, numbers which ensure the efficient nursing of these interesting little patients. Precautions against infection, and the treatment of infectious diseases, are admirable, and, as a natural sequence, the results are most satisfactory. There is, of course, an observation ward. I say "of course" advisedly, because obviously it *ought* to be part of the structure of every children's hospital. Other precautions are: (1) Every child has his own separate basin, cup, tray, toothbrush, &c.; (2) The things are sterilized after use; (3) Whenever infection breaks out, that ward becomes the isolation ward. The well children are kept in the ward, but the individual cot is isolated; the results justify the method. The well-known Mr. John Ross Robertson is a generous benefactor to this hospital. Besides subscribing £2,000 annually, the Lakeside Hospital for convalescent children is entirely his gift. It is an ideal spot. The slab bath is used here for the little ones. On this Continent it is customary to have, as part of the equipment of the hospital, an automobile service for the purpose of bringing to or removing patients from the hospital. It is the case here. It ought to be regarded as an indispensable necessity.

After our interesting inspection we were hospitably entertained to lunch. A few days later in the hall of the Nurses' Residence, which is large and handsome enough for the entertainment of King George and Queen Mary, we were entertained at an "At-home," where I think we must have met all the nicest people in Canada! Among them, besides our gracious hostess Miss Potts, were of course Miss Snively, and Miss Gunn.

ANOTHER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

"Mr. Ross Robertson has been there, he goes to see all the children's hospitals, and he says it is the finest he has seen, *the last word* in fact, in children's hospitals." Thus spake Miss Potts when she heard we were likely to visit Boston. So when we accepted Miss Parsons' most kind and attractive invitation to be her guests at the Massachusetts General Hospital in that city, we took advantage of the high recommendation. Scientific treatment usually means simplicity, for the *simple* reason that science is the faithful follower of Nature. This Institution is worked upon one broad principle, classified under one heading, namely: (a) Prevention of infection, (b) Outdoor treatment, (c) Ventilation.

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