

**THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE  
RECREATION HUT AT FULHAM BY  
H.R.H. PRINCESS LOUISE, DUCHESS  
OF ARGYLL.**

Monday, July 10th, was a gala day for the men of the Fulham Military Hospital, when their Hut was opened by H.R.H. Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll. Hours of careful thinking and active work must have gone to make the Hut look so charmingly attractive as it did on this occasion. The colour scheme and furniture suggested the summer bungalow of an artist, rather than a recreation hut for our Tommies. The green and white paint of the walls and gabled roof looked fresh and cool, and when the sun is shining on

said she hoped it would bring pleasure and comfort to the men. In declaring the Hut open, the Princess said she had on several occasions opened other huts, and it always gave her great pleasure; she knew they were much appreciated; and she added, "We want to do all we can to show our gratitude to the men for all they are doing for us on the other side." She wished every success to the Hut.

Some interesting facts concerning the general work of the Y.M.C.A. were given by Mr. J. J. Virgo, Field Secretary to the British National Council, and Mr. A. K. Yapp, National Secretary. The former is about to start on a tour round the world to inspect the work of this excellent Association, and to establish an Imperial Council, which speaks for itself of the need and extent of the work,



H.R.H. PRINCESS LOUISE, DUCHESS OF ARGYLL, ON HER WAY TO OPEN THE HUT.

and through those pretty pink curtains of the lattice windows, making the central hall glow with light and colour, and when flowers—cut and in pots—are tastefully arranged in moderate profusion, why then you can easily imagine that our wounded soldiers are getting all they require in the refinement of rest and recreation.

A large number of people had assembled to do honour to the occasion, and after Heber's beautiful hymn, "The Son of God goes forth to war," had been sung, followed by the Lord's Prayer, the Chairman, Colonel Sir T. Sturmy Cave, gave an introductory address. Miss Annie E. Hulme then made a presentation of the Hut on behalf of the donors, namely herself and Baron Profumo, and

which began in a small way 73 years ago. There are now 9,500 centres. At the time the war broke out there were about 1,000,000 members; the addition of 2,000,000 more may probably now be counted on. Twenty millions of money is invested in real estate for the benefit of the Y.M.C.A. The speaker said it is work that will endure because it is built upon the basis of the Christian religion.

At the request of President Roosevelt, Y.M.C.A. Huts had been established at Panama during the construction of the canal, with marked success.

Mr. Yapp, in accepting the Hut on behalf of the Council, thanked the donors for their beautiful gift, and spoke warmly of Miss Hulme's work there.

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