

## THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

### THE NEW CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN.

The Royal Matinée in aid of the New Chelsea Hospital for Women, at the Palladium on Friday, March 15th, was a great success; and the Queen, who, with Princess Mary, was present at the performance, demonstrated her continued interest in the work of the hospital—for Her Majesty, who is Patron of the Hospital, was present at a Matinée at the Palladium on behalf of the hospital in 1914, and opened the new building in 1916.

The Queen was received by the Marchioness of Londonderry (representing the Marquess of Londonderry, President of the Hospital), the Countess of Ilchester (President of the Ladies' Committee), Mr. T. Dyer Edwardes (Chairman of Council), and others; and amongst those who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty were the Matron (Miss Ellen West), and the Secretary (Mr. Herbert H. Jennings).

The varied programme arranged under the management of Col. Charles Gulliver was most effectively carried out. The wonderful playing of Liszt's "Sixth Rhapsody," Elgar's "Land of Hope and Glory," and "Rag-time Paraphrase of Tennessee" by Mr. Max Darewski, was a rare treat; and Miss Mary Law's interpretation of Sarasate's "Zapapeado," and other music, on the violin, was of a high order. The last item on the programme—Marcelle and his performing seal—was one of the most interesting; few people, indeed, could have guessed that a seal could be so clever an actor.

Miss Irene Vanbrugh & Co. were most amusing in the one-act play, "The Twelve Pound Look," by J. M. Barrie—Mr. Stanley Turnbull playing the purse-proud millionaire, who bullies his wife, with admirable skill; while Miss Vanbrugh was inimitable in the rôle of the wife who left him and who unexpectedly turned up as a typist.

In the interval, half-way through the programme, the Marchioness of Londonderry came on the stage and gave a brief account of the work of the hospital and announced a donation of £1,000 from the Trustees of the Zunz Bequest towards clearing off the debt of £14,000 on the new building

and other gifts; and also stated that the proceeds of the performance (which realized over £4,000), would go to the Royal Matinee Fund, which would remain open to the end of the month.

It is somewhat a surprise on visiting the New Chelsea Hospital for Women in Arthur Street, Chelsea, where it has been domiciled since July, 1916, to find Boy Scouts in possession of the hall, and khaki the predominant colour. At present fifty of the seventy-five beds are occupied by wounded officers, for the hospital is an Auxiliary to Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital, at Millbank. It is an interesting coincidence in this connection that the Matron of the Hospital (Miss West) was in America on the outbreak of war and returned later to this country because she wished to do war-work, but sacrificed her personal

desires in order to accept the Matronship of this Hospital for Women, which fate has now turned into a military hospital. The small wards with their wide balconies, are admirably adapted for the purpose, and the Board Room has been converted into a most comfortable sitting-room, which, by the kindness of Colonel Gulliver and the Directors of the Palladium, has been provided with a billiard-table. A grateful patient also presented the Matron with £200 towards an X-ray installation only stipulating that no one should know of the gift until he had left the hospital.

The up-to-date theatre, and its annexes, including a bathroom for the medical staff, are fitted with the most modern devices.

The hospital has received a donation of £250 from

Sir Perceval Laurence, K.C.M.G., in memory of his sister, Miss E. C. Laurence, R.R.C., a former Matron of the hospital.

It is to be hoped that the Royal Matinée Fund will receive still further support, and that the hospital will be relieved of the debt which cripples its usefulness. The need of provision for the treatment of diseases of women is great, and beds can always be filled, and much suffering be relieved thereby. Meanwhile the hospital is serving a purpose of national utility by placing beds at the disposal of the military authorities for wounded officers, and it is evident that, under the sympathetic administration of the Matron, they are well content with the quarters in which they find themselves, and which indeed are extremely pleasant ones.



MISS ELLEN WEST.

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