

Physical training has been expanded, and it says much for the bodily condition of the children that not one was inconvenienced by the severe weather of last winter.

Every Sunday all the children go to Morning Service, and during the year nine of them have been confirmed.

Chorleywood College for Girls with little or no Sight.

In the earlier months of 1939 the spirit of international amity was strongly evident at the College. It welcomed an unusual number of visitors from abroad; old Girls, too, seemed to be travelling more than usual, and letters from them came from Cyprus, Jamaica, Germany and British Columbia.

Students' Library and Braille Manuscript Department.

A Library of 15,000 Braille volumes, constituting transcriptions of works, however complex and abstruse, needed by blind students for the professions, has been built up by 150 voluntary Braille writers. These devoted workers have during the year added 700 volumes to the Library.

Massage Services.

Qualified blind masseurs and masseuses were among the first who volunteered for national service on the outbreak of war. The large majority enlisted in the Chartered Society's Massage Corps for either mobile or immobile service, and are ready at any moment to take up war work. At the same time every student at the Institute's Massage School expressed a wish to continue intensive training in London; arrangements were accordingly made, with the help of voluntary drivers, to take the students to and from the School by car, and all A.R.P. and first-aid requirements were completed.

The Evening Massage and Electrical Clinic, which provides senior blind students with the necessary clinical experience, has functioned throughout the year; attendances during the year were 5,492; treatments, 9,905; medical examinations, 334.

The Eichholz Clinic was severely affected at the beginning of the war because many doctors were called up for military duty and many people left town; but the authorities of the Clinic refused to be daunted, and it has continued to receive patients; the number of treatments administered during the year was 4,128.

Employment of the Blind.

The Institute employs about 100 blind persons as regular members of the staff at its Headquarters, Branches, Homes, Schools and Kiosks, in addition to those who are occasionally employed as home workers, Braille copyists, contributors to periodicals, etc.

The work carried on by the blind employees includes administration, lecturing, teaching, money raising, Braille

transcription by hand and by machine, Braille proof-reading, collating, shorthand-typing, and telephony, and kiosk management.

Kiosk management offers good employment to blind men or women of the right type, but an extension of the scheme depends entirely on the acquisition of suitable sites. The good will of the owners of such sites is therefore earnestly requested.

Blind Home Workers.

What most blind people desire more than anything is to earn a living. The blind craftsman can do so, but he must have some help.

Blind home workers are helped through a scheme which covers the whole country. The National Institute administers the Scheme operating in the South-Eastern Counties and South London. In this area there are at present 303 home workers, the majority being piano-tuners, machine knitters and basket-makers. The services

rendered to them are training—there are at present 47 trainees—provision of equipment, supply of raw materials at lowest cost, supervision of manufacture and marketing of goods. The extent of this help and the intrinsic value of the products can be measured by the actual earnings of the home workers, which amounted during the year to £10,847.

The standard of work is high, and there is no better way of supplying household goods, and also of helping the blind, than buying blind-made baskets, brushes, mats, hosiery, and

other knitted goods in attractive designs and colours.

This is but a brief sketch of the enormous task of the National Institute for the Blind in their efforts to teach the blinded people how to live useful and therefore happy lives.

Any material help and useful voluntary services will be gratefully received on behalf of our afflicted fellow citizens by the Institute.

We are able to reproduce this charming illustration by the kind permission of Mr. W. McG. Edgar, the Secretary-General of the Institute.



GIRLS FIND RELAXATION FROM STUDY IN THE LOVELY GARDENS OF THEIR COUNTRY HOME.

£10,000 FOR NEWLY BLIND—LORD NUFFIELD'S GIFT.

Sir Beachcroft Towse, the blind V.C., and Chairman of the National Institute for the Blind, has received from Lord Nuffield a cheque for £10,000 to help newly blinded persons and their dependants.

In a letter, which appears on page 177, Sir Beachcroft asks readers to notify the National Institute of any men, women or children whose sight may be injured in air raids. Arrangements have been made to give specialised training to these people.

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