

PHILIPS "PILLOTONE" UNIT

Philips Electrical, Ltd., have introduced a new small extension "loudspeaker" called the "Pillotone" Unit which may be placed under a pillow in order that hospital patients can hear radio programmes individually and in comfort. It attracted much attention at the London Nursing Exhibition, and a number of hospital authorities have shown great interest in it.

The "Pillotone" Unit comprises a bimorph. crystal drive unit mounted flexibly in a very robust plastic case, about four inches in diameter and one inch thick at the centre. The case is smooth and free from projections. It cannot be taken apart by aspirant "scientists," an important feature for the hospital maintenance staff. It can withstand rough treatment extremely well, and can be, say, dropped to the floor without damage.

The unit is placed under the pillow, providing comfortable and "private" listening to each patient individually, without any of the disadvantages of headphones, which frequently cause soreness of the head and ears and entanglement of the hair. Should the patient fall asleep while listening, no discomfort or other undesirable consequences can result. Being inaudible to all but the individual patient, the "Pillotone" Unit also overcomes the drawbacks of open-ward loudspeakers which can be very disturbing to patients who are too ill to enjoy radio programmes.

A great practical merit of the "Pillotone" Unit is that, being completely waterproof, it can be totally immersed in disinfectant without being damaged in any way. Furthermore, it can be operated from any existing radio or amplifier system, a small matching unit being provided when necessary.

A small selector switch with five positions can be supplied with the "Pillotone" Unit. This provides for two programmes, A and B, at "Medium" or "Soft" volume levels in each case. The fifth switch position converts the unit into a microphone enabling the patient to call a nurse in case of emergency.

We are much interested in this new development by Philips Electrical, Ltd., and are informed that one "Pillotone" Unit costs £2 5s., with a reduction on a quantity.

With Christmas drawing near, we hope that many of these articles will find their way under the pillows of sick folk in home, nursing home and hospital.

Further information will be gladly supplied by Philips Electrical, Ltd., Century House, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2.

THE GRENFELL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Once again the Christmas season is at hand, a time when we are happily reminded of the steady progress of the great work among the "deep-sea fishers," inspired by the late Sir Wilfred Grenfell.

That his spirit of selfless devotion for the welfare of this fine race continues to flourish, is well and truly told in the pages of the official organ of the International Grenfell Association.

At this time every year we look forward to the issue of the beautiful Christmas Cards, the sale of which helps financially our Newfoundland friends on the other side of the Atlantic, who gallantly withstand the rigours of arctic storms and conditions.

We would recommend our friends to purchase, if they wish to send something uniquely charming this Christmas, such as "Early Spring, Labrador," a water colour by Cecil S. Ashdown, price 1s. 2d., "The Nurse Arrives,"

price 1s.; or for the children, "A Labrador Doctor," price 6d., or the pretty blue pocket calendar at 3d. The cost of these cards is wonderfully small in consideration of their beauty.

The cards may be purchased at the Grenfell Association, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, by a personal call (when you will be sure of a warm welcome), or by post.

Reports from Labrador tell of a hard winter for the fishermen. For two summers' fish has been scarce and there was little fur. Consequently, many families have been short of food and warm clothing, and their dogs (the only means of transport in winter)

have died—despair threatens. The hospitals are fuller than ever and the calls on already strained resources are many.

Tuberculosis is dangerously increasing, and more X-ray equipment is needed if this heartbreaking disease is to be checked. Unfortunately, the time has come when some of the original wooden hospital and nursing stations must be rebuilt; these buildings have withstood the arctic storms for forty years.

Readers will understand how desperately help is needed this year, so we hope they will do what they can.

We quote the paragraph of the Rev. Neal D. Bousfield: "During my stay in St. Anthony, I climbed the hill which rises abruptly from the Mission station, and there stood in the silence before the resting places of the ashes of Sir Wilfred and Lady Grenfell. The spirit and indomitable courage of this man of God lives on, not only in the magnificent buildings and the work going on along the Newfoundland and Labrador coasts, but his name is on every tongue, and his memory in every heart."



The "Pillotone" in Nurse's hand. A boon to sick folk.

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