

IN HOSPITAL.

How the Patients at Matlock-Lane Spend Christmas.

PICTURESQUE SCHEMES OF DECORATION.

Keeping, as it undoubtedly is keeping, abreast of the times, Ealing King Edward Memorial Hospital has its traditions and customs, and these, though the fabric of the building may have changed, and its departments developed, continue to receive the homage due to the one of them that is at Christmas-time the patients shall be given as good a time and as happy a time as the condition may allow.

The entertainments of the big family at Matlock-Lane this year was a bigger responsibility than ever, for with the opening of the Queen Alexandra Wing the number of patients was largely increased. The Matron (Miss M. E. Thornham), the sisters, and the nurses were, however, equal to the occasion, and the kind-heartedness of the people of Ealing made it possible for them to do more to carry into effect the old wish, "A Merry Christmas" and to give to each patient, man, woman, and child, the best that it was in their power to give.

Christmas rejoicings at the Hospital began on Christmas Eve, when about thirty of the nurses, trained by Mr. Chandler, of the Ealing Central School, and accompanied by the boys of the school, went round the wards, carrying lanterns, and singing carols. The boys chanted the proceedings, and Mr. E. Gaskell (piano), F. Rumney, and H. Welch (voices), and K. Wright, F. Viering, T. Vorkie, and B. Wright (who sang in the choir).

DOCTORS' CARVE.

Dinner was at midday, and consisted of turkey, sausages, and mince pies. Practically all the patients were able to enjoy the Christmas fare, and in addition the chairman of the Hospital (Mr. Walter Davies, J.P.), the Mayor of Ealing (Mr. W. T. White and Miss Rosamund M. White), Mr. G. A. Chamberlain and Mrs. G. Chamberlain, the Mayor bringing cigarettes for the men and the Mayor's dolls for the children. Dr. George Thomson, Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Farquhar Phillip, Dr. Buchanan, and Mr. W. T. van Someren (seniorly superintendent), carried the turkeys.

Patients were each allowed to entertain two friends at tea, and later in the afternoon the nursing staff, formed into two sections, gave entertainments and dramatic plays after the style of the old pier-trot, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Hillman and Mr. E. Rumney, and on the violin by F. Rumney and H. Welch. It ought here to be mentioned that Mr. E. E. Squire, of the New Broadway, kindly lent pianos for the Christmas merriment.

On Thursday was the occasion of the children's tea party, and the little patients were joined by others who had been inpatients during the year. It was a crowded and a happy gathering, and wound up with the distribution of presents from the large Christmas tree, the dominating feature of the festive appearance of the ward, its tasteful illumination, arranged by Messrs. Honor Bros., affording a charming spectacle. Dr. Puddy and Dr. Deaneer (seniorly) and Mrs. Deaneer helped with the entertainment of the little ones.

A concert on Thursday afternoon was given in two of the wards by Miss Josephine Brydges (who sang), Miss W. T. White, Miss G. A. Chamberlain, Miss Hillman, and Miss Shellbear (who accompanied her own songs on the harp) and Miss Kate Wells (the leading lady in the recent local amateur production of "The Stoops to Conquer," who recited).

Various sections of the hospital staff, from the maids to the sisters, were each entertained at dinner.

IN THE WARDS.

The wards of the Hospital have never presented a prettier picture than on the occasion of the Christmas festivities this year, and it says much for the ingenuity of the sisters and nurses that they were able to evolve such admirable schemes of decoration. In the children's ward, the spectacle was one of brightness and good cheer, and the little ones were the only sufferers of it. The Princess Mary Ward, in the Queen Alexandra Wing, looked a picture in its bright decoration of tulips-tulips in the window-boxes and elsewhere, and the bed-room. The front-door and the entrance were, appropriately enough, was of a Dutch garden, suggestive at once of the grass verge of the little pond, a delight in itself, made the happiest setting for the Christmas tree, and tiny Dutch figures, and it was pleasing to learn here, as in other wards, that much of the work of the week of the artificial flowers had been done by the patients themselves.

Crosses furnished the keynote in the Princess Mary Ward. "Planted" in green, they supplied an artistic window display that traced with the wall decoration of daffodils and the lamp shades. The table scene was of a cottage with a winding path cut in the green turf, and baskets and bowls of spring flowers completed the picture.

The man's wards were equally entertaining. In one, the beautiful tints of autumn leaves had been made the basis of a scene. A spider's web formed the centre-piece of the aerial display, and smaller webs were interwoven amid the flowers of the table decorations below. A farmhouse scene, carried out in exacting detail, occupied a prominent position. In the other ward, the scene was a Christmas one, with pretty play on the idea of the Christmas Eve, a snow scene, and, conforming to the predominating note of red, a few touches of poinsettia.

Today (Saturday), following the opening of the new Out-Patients' Department, which is a wonderful addition to the usefulness of the Hospital, a reception is to be held, when, after tea, concert will be held in the Robichaud and Walter Davies Wards.

DONORS OF GIFTS.

The following is a list of the donors of Christmas gifts: Mr. R. Wilson, Miss Roche, Miss J. Jones, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. W. G. Taylor, Mrs. Steele, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Hall-Jones, Mrs. Muir, Miss Thiborough, Mrs. Chamberlain, Mrs. Hartley, Mr. van Someren, Miss Drewe Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Tyler, Mrs. E. Tyler, Mrs. W. H. Smith, Mr. A. Warren, Col. Empson, Miss D. Harris, Mrs. A. M. Hunt, Miss Doughton, Mr. W. G. Taylor, Mr. B. C. G. Scott, Mrs. Stedman, Mrs. Powell, Miss Ponsford, Mrs. C. G. G. Scott, Mr. Mann, J. H. Hens, Mrs. L. Evans, Mrs. W. Jackson, Mrs. M. H. Jackson, Messrs. Littlewoods and Company, Mrs. Crossfield, Dr. Bell, and Mrs. Jennings.—Total amount received, £27, 9s. 6d.

BADMINTON.

Opportunities of Forming New Local Clubs.

EXPERIENCED PLAYERS WHO WOULD BE PLEASSED TO HELP.

At the present time there is an unobscured boom in the game of Badminton, and I feel sure that any proprietors of halls or parish rooms, large enough for one or more courts would find it a paying proposition to equip and let them. Naturally, a venture of this description would need suitable advertising, and many people who have been unable to get into existing clubs would probably welcome the idea of starting a small one of their own.

LOCAL TRADITIONS.

I feel sure that there are many local players of experience who would be pleased to take an interest and help forward any schemes of this sort. Ealing can boast many really good players who could advise on lighting and other questions, and also play some of the nature of exhibition games, which can be very instructive and helpful to onlookers who are keen to improve their play. There is plenty of room for new talent in the championship ranks, and young blood is readily needed. Ealing Badminton traditions date back to the introduction of the game into this country, and many of the present champions learnt to play here. It would, therefore, be very nice to see some local players coming along to keep up the reputation of the club in this direction. A great point in favour of the scheme is that it is available to all, both from the fact that it is fairly inexpensive and also that it is chiefly played by artificial light in the evenings.

THE LONDON LEAGUE.

It is very unfortunate that the established Ealing Club has had to drop out of the London League competition, due to a number of the strongest teams entered, but has had rather bad luck for the past year or so. However, the Ealing Grange Club is still playing bravely in the second division, and brings much of its chief strength to the game. Being fairly well known on behalf of the Middlesex Championships and the "All Ealing" tournament for many years past has been fully appreciated by all the competitors.

MARIAN E. HORSLEY.

BRENTHAM NEWS.

STAY-AT-HOME CHRISTMAS: THE INSTITUTE DESERTED.

It is a long time since there has been such a stay-at-home Christmas holiday for the older folk. The youngsters enjoyed their 800-foot by 5-foot by 3-foot ball fights and tobogganing, but the institute was deserted—all the usual outdoor sports had to be abandoned. On Boxing Day many of those who had booked seats at the theatre preferred the comfort of their own firesides, and impromptu parties were the order of the day. Then, on Tuesday, the day of the slight thaw, which found out the weak spots in water pipes.

We have been longing for a good old-fashioned picture-postcard Christmas holiday, and now that we have had it, I am inclined to think that our views on the subject have undergone a considerable change. But perhaps that depends upon whether we are fifteen or fifty.

"Tonight is the footballers' dance, and, as predicted, all the tickets were quickly sold out, and many have been disappointed. There will be, however, an opportunity for all who wish to do so to join in the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" at midnight, and in welcoming the New Year.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday next, at 7.30, there will be performances by Brentham children of Mr. W. and Mrs. J. H. Hens, and the "Band in Fairland." The production is in the capable hands of Mr. Sydney Folker, and is likely to be the best ever accommodation at the Institute will be shortly issued. The prices of admission are: Jan. 5th (children's night), children 6d., adults 1s.; Jan. 6th, 1s. 2d., and 1s. 6d.; Jan. 7th, 2d., 6d., 1s., and 1s. 2d. Any remaining tickets can be obtained at 20s, Pishanger-lane, Ealing, W.5.

It is quite likely that the fancy theatre will be produced at a London theatre at a later date.

The golf society is holding a special dinner at the Institute on the 14th inst. at 7.30. The price of admission will be 2s. 6d., including refreshments. There were many who were unable to get tickets for the last golf dance, and as this state of affairs is likely to happen again, early application is necessary to avoid disappointment.

On and from Friday next the common room on Friday evenings will be the small hall. This is in consequence of a private letting, but the facilities of the common room will be available for a small hall immediately after the close of the library.

Weather and conditions allowing, the following football fixtures have been arranged for to-day: At home 1st team v. Old Southallians, at 2.30, in a M.C.A. League match. Away: 2nd team v. Shary Hill "B," at 4.30, at 2.30, in a Dauntless League match.

A happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to all.

VETERAN.

A profit of £230 was realised by performances of Bethlehem tableaux held in Harrow School Speech Room in aid of a fund to cover the cost of repairs to the roof of Harrow Parish Church.

Mr. Leonard M. Graves, J.P., chairman of Staines Rural District Council, sends us the message: "In the New Year, I wish to thank you for the opportunity to give more than to take, so that we and old Old Country may be better, at the end of 1927."

Mr. Gomer Berry, of the Chase, Farnham Royal, is one of the three Directors who will in future control the Daily Telegraph. Lord Burnham, in parting with a property which is almost identical with his own, states that the principles of the paper will remain the same.

A link with Waterloo is broken by the death of Miss Alice Standen Watson, Denbigh-road, Ealing, who died last week aged 80. She was the widow of Colonel C. J. Watson, Madras Staff Corps, and grand-daughter of Colonel S. Lang, who was a general in the British Army. Her father was the late Dr. Seyer Lang, of Thatcham, Berks, and her husband was a grand-uncle of Sir James Watson, K.C., of Wigan, who died in 1926.

COATS & DRESSES of Great Interest to the Ladies of the District! An Announcement of Great Interest to the Ladies of the District! See Windows Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday before Sale. Thursday Next, Jan. 5th. Come Early! DOORS OPEN 10 a.m. Don't be Disappointed! This Sale will be the Greatest Event Ealing has ever known. Come and see the windows and be convinced. GREAT WINTER SALE Super - Bargains! MATTHEWS & SONS 75, BROADWAY, WEST EALING (Corner of Melbourne Avenue) One of the Largest Buyers of Ladies' Wear in the Trade. Greatest Sale. A WINTER SALE that is going to prove a "History-maker" among Sales! For never before have we offered such astounding Bargains—(keep though our prices invariably are)—never before have we made such a clean sweep, never cut more drastically than we are doing this present time. Therefore, since exceptional bargains will inevitably draw record custom, do not delay your visit for that with court disappointment. Call early and make your pick. Call often, and see how, as soon as one bargain is snapped up, its place will be taken by another from our stocks. Do not hesitate, or you will be missing such values as those offered here. COATS, COSTUMES, RAINCOATS, FROCKS, GOWNS, FURS, MILLINERY etc., etc., at ABSOLUTELY UNHEARD-OF PRICES. 46 SMART D.B. COATS Half Lined. Various Colours. Matthews Sale Price 15/- 87 WINTER WRAPS Fur Collars and Cuffs, in the Newest Colours. Matthews Sale Price 20/- LADIES' COAT FROCKS Smart Styles. New Materials. From 18/11 JUMPERS & BLOUSES Attractive Models in Art. Silk and Art. Silk and Wool. From 3/11 LADIES' COSTUMES Man-tailored. Usually 2/3/0 to 2/5/0. From 42/11 Ladies' UNDERWEAR Camisoles, Travellers' Slippers, Less than Half-price. 1/11 and 1/6 34 STYLISH COATS Lined, Fur Trimmed Collars and Cuffs. Matthews Sale Price 30/- 41 MODEL WRAPS Fur Trimmed. Brocade Lined. Matthews Sale Price 40/- You must come along DURING NEXT WEEK and see the Wonderful Bargains being offered, so that you will be convinced of our statements. REMEMBER THE DATE, Next Thursday, JAN. 5th, at 10 a.m., and be sure to come early. This Sale will eclipse all previous Record Values. THURSDAY, JAN. 5th IS THE OPENING DAY OF OUR GREAT SALE NOT SHILLINGS, BUT POUNDS POSITIVELY SAVED ON EVERY GARMENT! MATTHEWS & SONS 75, BROADWAY (Corner of Melbourne Ave.), W. EALING, W.13 Phone: Ealing 1958 14, THE BROADWAY, ACTON, W.3 (Opposite Public Library) Phone: CHISWICK 4074