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FOR CHARITY'S SWEET SAKE.—

A most enjoyable evening was spent at the Corn Exchange by members of both sexes on Wednesday. The occasion was a smoking concert, and it was arranged by the Haywards Heath Conservative Club in aid of the local Cottage Hospital. Mr. C. H. S. ELLIS made an excellent Chairman, and among the company we noticed Major Eaton, Lieutenant Hollis, Mr. Scott Pitcher, Mr. T. White, Mr. H. Plummer, Mr. H. V. Vaughan, Mr. Dealtry, Mr. Botting, Mr. Chandler, Mr. Bertram Tugwell, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Gunson, Mr. Jeffery, Mr. Sayers, Mr. Bennett, and Mr. H. Hodges (who carried out the secretarial work). In opening the proceedings the CHAIRMAN said that apart from the fact that the Haywards Heath Conservative Club had organised the concert there was nothing political about the gathering. The institution they had come to support—the Cottage Hospital—was a good one, and under the able management of Miss

Barrett (Matron) the place had been a haven of refuge for local people. The war, however, had widened its scope, and during the last six months there was no branch of the service that had not been represented at the Hospital. There had been received for treatment members of the Regular and Territorial Forces—some of them back from the trenches—and National Reservists. Wounded Belgians had also been sent there. Without hesitation all the soldiers who had received treatment would say that the Hospital was most worthy of public support. Therefore those present could look forward to an enjoyable evening with the consciousness that they were doing some good as well. (Applause). The concert was opened by Private Powell, who gave a capital pianoforte solo. He was followed by Corporal Powell, who very nicely sang "Where my Caravan has rested," and next Corporal Mercer executed a cornet solo most creditably, "Thora" being the selection. Driver Cayless was loudly applauded for the song "One of the Deathless Army," and Driver Hewitt was equally successful with that delightful song "Somewhere a Voice is Calling." The popular airs played on the mandoline by Lance-Corporal Morley brought down the house, and Private and Mrs. Gant exquisitely rendered "Excelsior."

Private Schomfield won hearty appreciation for his violin solo, and Private Richards caused mirth with the song "We really had a most delightful evening." Private Watkins gave three first-rate recitations, and Miss Amy Cresswell had the audience wholeheartedly with her on singing "Bravo! Territorials." Trumpeter Lafferty was "all there" in the humorous song "Our Wedding," and Corporal Moir did full justice to the song "Drake goes West." Mrs. Gant, with great feeling, gave "My Dear Soul," and the next vocalist was Private Len Fowler, whose "Bwains, Deah Bhoy!" gave rise to much merry laughter. Corporal Hullah was heard to advantage in "Shipmates o' Mine," and was followed by Miss Amy Cresswell, who gave "In Old Madrid" with beautiful expression. Others who carried on the programme were Corporal Mercer, cornet solo, "My Pretty Jane"; Private Clarke, song, "She is far from the Land"; Private Richards, song, "Jones of the Lancers"; Driver Hewitt, song, "Thora"; Trumpeter Lafferty, song, "At the Play"; song, Mr. B. Tugwell, "Sussex by the Sea"; Bugler Robinson, 'cello solo, "The Broken Melody," which was deservedly encored; Sergeant McCormack, song, "The Seventh Royal Fusiliers" (encored); Bugle-Major Robinson, cornet solo, "Because" (beautifully played); Private Watkins, recitation, "A Little Mistake"; Miss Amy Cresswell, song, "Sing a Song of Bonnie Scotland" (encored); and Private Catling, song, "Love is for Ever." The accompanists were Private Holmes, R.A.M.C., Private Powell, A.S.C., and Bugler King, L.R.B. Major EATON proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Ellis for presiding, and took advantage of the opportunity to speak most highly of the care and attention paid to the National Reservists belonging to his Company who had had occasion to enter the Cottage Hospital.