

**FÊTE AND GALA
 FOR THE RED CROSS SOCIETY.**

"OUR DAY": BURGESS HILL.

VARIETY ENTERTAINMENTS, SPORTS
 AND A BABY SHOW:

It was "Our Day"—and don't forget it! "This event of the year at Burgess Hill" was arranged not merely for pleasure—though of that there was plenty, and in wholesome and varied forms too!—but to help that great and noble organisation, the British Red Cross Society. Burgess Hill's record during the terrible world-war will well compare with that of any similar township in the county. Hundreds of its brave sons are away with the Forces; about fifty have yielded up their lives; and in service and self-sacrifice in assisting patriotic and necessary movements local residents have revealed an intense sympathy and a wonderful depth and breadth of humanity. Wednesday's fête and gala brought together all classes, a huge assembly of hundreds of people gladly aiding "the cause." It was very appropriate, too, that the affair should have been held in the beautiful and extensive grounds of Oak Hall, by the kind permission of the Misses Crunden, because for several decades the names of "Oak Hall" and "Crunden" have synchronised and symbolised good deeds quietly done for sweet charity, philanthropy and the general welfare of the people. Many blessings and advantages are sent to us in disguise, and the wet and cold weather on the previous Wednesday, when the fête had to be postponed and the two entertainments promoted by Mr. A. E. Craeke were given in St. John's Institute, really meant a clear gain of £20 from the latter for the Fund.

"THE RIGHT SPIRIT."

On the present occasion the sun shone brilliantly, and everybody was in the right spirit. Mr. J. Emerson was the able Chairman of the General Committee, working hard and enthusiastically; Mr. G. A. Hammond was the esteemed Hon. Secretary, putting in worthy effort; and Sub-Committees had been appointed for the various departments. Quartermaster I. H. Harrison, of the Burgess Hill Volunteers, kindly lent several tents for displays and useful purposes, these being erected under the tall and shady oak trees on the lawn, and Volunteers rendered assistance at the gates and in the charming grounds. Local Cadets were there, under Lieutenant Holman, boys of St. Luke's Home, under Mr. E. J. S. Pughe (Master), and Girl Guides, and these and a number of wounded soldiers—who realise so fully the significance of the Red Cross!—took delight in the proceedings. Sweet music was played by the "Potts" Band from Brighton, selections were given on a large gramophone by Mr. A. E. Craeke, and excellent entertainments—two more having been kindly arranged by Mr. Craeke, with Mr. F. Brightin Dyer, A.T.C.L., as pianoforte accompanist—sports and competitions were proceeding simultaneously in various directions. At the entertainments the large audiences were particularly delighted with the singing of Miss Rene Stone and the dancing of Miss Marjory Challice—two very young and clever little girls, who were rapturously encored. The afternoon programme was as follows:—

Song, "Love's Garden of Roses," Miss Ivy Smart; humorous song at piano, "The Other Department," Mr. C. W. Towner (encored); song, "The Wood Pigeon," Miss Muriel Hardwick; song, "I'm in Love," Miss Rene Stone (encored); solo dance, "The Swan," Miss Marjory Challice (encored); song, "Thy Saviour am I" (Michael Watson), Mr. A. E. Craeke; song, "Love's Way" (Gerald Lane), Mrs. Walford; recitation, "Trials of a Schoolmistress," Miss Muriel Hardwick (encore, "How did she know?"); song, "Marguerite" (Faust), Miss Ivy Smart; humorous song at piano, "She only started giggling," Mr. C. W. Towner (encored); solo dance, "The Scotch Dance," Miss Marjory Challice (encored); song, "Love and Wine" (Gipsy Love), Mr. A. E. Craeke; song, "Sergeant's Daddy, V.G.," Miss Rene Stone (encored); song, "I know a Lovely Garden" (D'Harriolot), Mrs. Walford.

INTERESTING COMPETITIONS.

Musical drill was creditably given by boys of St. Luke's Home, under Mr. Pughe, with Mr. Dyer at the piano. Mr. J. Harbour and Mr. B. Swift had charge of the side shows and general competitions, which proved to be of pleasing variety, very interesting and well patronised. Clock golf and putting competitions were under the care of the Misses Crunden, whose kindness and cordial welcome to all were much appreciated. Mr. F. N. Hampton, Mr. D. Gregory Smith, Mr. W. Nye and Mr. J. Offord looked after the bowling at Jack, at which packets of cigarettes were won by the "experts." Some time ago the Bowling Club had defeated the Volunteers at bowls, but the Bowlers were not successful against them in a rifle shooting match, and where were the "followers of Drake" when the Volunteers invited them to the tug-of-war? Mr. Watkin James had control of the cokenut shies—where the Cadets and the Home boys excelled—and Mr. T. H. Burrell the skittles board. The Kaiser was on the programme in the character of Aunt Sally—"hit Kaiser Bill and get a cokenut!—but quite an accumulation of little affairs and "unforeseen circumstances" made him too busy to be present. Mr. F. Rowland obtained a large entry for a pig weight-judging competition, and once or twice he caused rare fun by allowing the squealing little piggy "a short run for his money" and the excitement of a capture! The weight of the animal, which was the coveted prize, was 21lbs., and that was correctly estimated by Mrs. Chandler, Miss Haylar, Mrs. Godding, Miss Field and Mr. Thrupp. A draw resulted in Mr. Thrupp being declared the winner. Mr. Samuel Putland attended to the weight-judging of a couple of rabbits, another popular competition. They turned the scale at 5lbs. 4ozs., and that weight was given by Mrs. Callow, Miss Street, Walter

Daysmith and G. Bridges. In the draw the rabbits went to Mrs. Callow and G. Bridges.

"NASAL ORGANS TESTED."

Mr. E. F. Mitchell, of Hassocks, a genial invalid in a wheeled chair, secured a large number of entrants for a jig-saw competition, the prize being given by Mr. H. Collison, of Hassocks. The number of pieces was 319, and after a tie between Mr. Hobden, Mr. Jacob and Mrs. Stacey (each of whom gave the figures 320), Mr. Hobden won on a draw being made. Miss N. Anson was responsible for the basin and coin throwing for prizes, which—in such a well-ordered town as Burgess Hill, where "pitch and toss" is a game only played occasionally by visitors!—requires more skill than many imagined. Mrs. A. E. Chapman did good service with a cake weight-judging competition. The cake and plate weighed 6lbs. 7ozs., and as Miss N. Woodman and Mrs. W. G. Simmonds were each correct in that matter it was decided to divide the cake between them. Master E. Chapman brought in many a penny by inviting estimates of the number of sweets in a bottle. The sweets numbered 434, and they were won by E. Ellis (436). Somebody remarked "He's a boy who looks as if he can eat them, too!" Mr. N. G. Beck put many nasal organs to a good test with a perfumery smelling competition. Nobody named the six different perfumes correctly, but two ladies, Miss Harland and Mrs. Haig-Hill, got five right, and Mr. Beck presented a bottle of perfume to each. Mr. E. Terry did well with a clock time-guessing competition. This had "no connection with the Daylight Saving Act," as the clock was stopped at a certain time and its face was covered. Its hands pointed to 5.55, and Miss Barrow gave the correct time and proved to be the only winner.

"THE BEST-LOOKING LADY."

A great deal of interest and enthusiasm had been created in the town by a shop window competition, run as an advertisement. In the window of each shop from the Post Office to Mr. Widdowson's corner a saleable article, but different from those sold in each particular shop, was displayed and had to be detected and listed. Messrs. Hoadleys, Limited, offered a prize of a pair of boots, value 12s. 6d., and the lists had to be taken to Mr. F. C. Baylis at the Committee tent on Wednesday. Although scores of people started out to find the articles, only 22 had sufficient confidence in their lists to send them in, and of these two correctly stated the articles—Leonard Fuller and May Hollingdale. A draw ended in the boy winning. Mrs. Parris and Miss Stella Wallbridge had a fine art exhibition, and not a little curiosity, speculation and amusement were aroused by an "exhibition of the best-looking lady in the district," by Mrs. F. C. Baylis. "Don't go elsewhere to be cheated: stop here!" ran the advice on the tent, but "catch lines" on the programme that "this superb exhibition" was "open to ladies only" and "could only be secured for charitable purposes" acted like magic on some men and women and boys and girls, and in they went. When they beheld their own features in a prepared mirror, what could they do but smile and slip out of the tent when nobody was looking! A capital programme of sports was carried out, the officials being Mr. F. C. Baylis, Mr. W. T. Jacob, Mr. C. J. Callow, Mr. Harry Shaw, Mr. E. J. S. Pughe and Mr. Bannister. The events were keenly contested. Results:—

Relay Race, boys under 12. Prizes given by Mr. A. H. Homewood and Mr. H. C. Wakeling.—First, A. Betts; 2nd, R. Waller; 3rd, C. Jarrett. Blindfold Tandem Race. Prizes given by Mr. H. T. Kellam.—First, A. Smith, R. Cooper and R. Waller.

Girls' Race, under 12. Prizes given by Mr. A. E. Hackett.—First, D. Hole; 2nd, W. Fuller; 3rd, N. Smith.

Boat Race, 120 yards. Prize, tea tickets.—Winning team: St. Luke's Home (T. Winter, E. Shenton, R. Divall, A. Eyre, G. Jarrett, S. Perry and P. Witcher).

Relay Race, boys 12 to 16. Prizes given by Mr. F. C. Baylis, Messrs. Hammond and Son, Mr. H. E. Terry and Mr. C. B. Taylor.—First, S. Perry, A. Eyre, T. Winter and P. Witcher.

Girls' Race, 12 to 15 years. Prizes given by Mr. E. J. Smith and the Misses Beck.—First, C. Miles; 2nd, E. Ball; 3rd, M. Hollingdale.

Cadets' Dressing Race. Prizes given by Lieut. Holman, Mr. W. E. Atkins and Mr. C. B. Taylor.—First, G. Betts; 2nd, A. E. Chapman; 3rd, W. Clark.

Mothers' Race. Prizes given by Mr. A. J. Brown and Mrs. Park.—First, Mrs. Brown; 2nd, Mrs. Crispin; 3rd, Mrs. Newham.

Young Ladies' Race, 16 to 27 years. Prizes given by Mr. Harry Shaw.—First, Miss E. Gait; 2nd, Miss Beatrice Batup; 3rd, Miss Florence Batup.

Bun and Glass of Water Race, boys. Prizes given by Mr. F. N. Hampton, Mr. W. E. Atkins and Messrs. Burnett and Miles.—First, A. Batchelor; 2nd, E. Ellis; 3rd, C. Tanner.

Obstacle Race. Prizes given by Mr. H. E. Terry, Mr. A. Hole and Mr. W. Crick.—First, A. Smith; 2nd, R. Cooper; 3rd, R. Gregory.

Potato Race, girls. Prizes given by Mr. O. N. Gooderham and Messrs. S. Hammond and Son.—First, M. Hollingdale; 2nd, L. Stoner; 3rd, M. Crowhurst.

St. Luke's Home Boys' Handicap. Prizes given by Mr. E. C. Bannister, Mr. H. C. Wakeling and Messrs. S. Hammond and Son.—First, T. Winter; 2nd, S. Perry; 3rd, A. Eyre.

"FINEST BABIES."

A baby show was, of course, a great attraction, especially for the ladies, prizes of 10s., 5s. and 2s. 6d. being given for the finest babies under the age of 18 months born in Sussex. About thirty infants were dandled by their proud mothers, and as the little beauties, with "promising" lungs, sent out a

chorus of sweet music, it was observed that it was "like St. John's lamb fair back again." Burgess Hill can always hold its own for babies, as some of the visitors who brought exhibits found to their dismay on Wednesday, the three prizes going to babies belonging to the town. Mrs. Pryce Mitchell, Mrs. Bray and Mrs. David Campbell kindly acted as judges, and Mrs. Bridge had pleasure in handing their awards to (1st) Mrs. Jeffery, Fowles Farm, (2nd) Mrs. Mugridge, London Road, and (3rd) Mrs. Taylor, St. John's Terrace. Mrs. G. Hart had supervision of the tea department, and that lady, with her numerous helpers, worked heroically to meet the wants of hundreds of persons who besieged the tent and the tables set out on the lawn. The evening entertainment was of a very pleasing character, and many of the artistes were enthusiastically applauded, though it will be seen that the programme was too long to admit encores:—

Song, "Plum Stones," Miss Muriel Hardwick; humorous song at piano, "Paper Bag Cookery," Mr. C. W. Towner; song, "The Gleaner's Slumber Song," Miss Ivy Smart; solo dance, "Salome Dance," Miss Marjorie Challice; song, "Captain Mac," Mr. A. E. Craske; song, "The Army of To-day," Miss Rene Stone; song, "Ave Maria," Mrs. Walford; humorous song, "The One-Man Band," Mr. Arthur Perry; song, "Tired Hands," Miss Ivy Smart; humorous song at piano, "Singers and Reciters," Mr. C. W. Towner; song, "When the War is over," Miss Rene Stone; song, "Master and Man," Mr. A. E. Craske; song, "The Toby Jug," Miss Muriel Hardwick; solo dance, "The Hunting Dance," Miss Marjorie Challice; song, "My Love has gone a-sailing," Mrs. Walford; humorous song, "I've only come down for the Day," Mr. Arthur Perry.

ABOUT £113 RAISED.

We saw Mr. Craske present Mrs. Walford with a beautiful bouquet and the two little girl entertainers, the Misses Rene Stone and Marjorie Challice, with large boxes of chocolates. Mr. Craske warmly thanked all the artistes, and on his call cheers were given them. Miss Crunden gracefully distributed the prizes for the sports and competitions. Mr. H. E. Anscombe sold by Dutch auction four tiny puppies presented by Mr. T. H. Burrell, the purchasers being Mrs. Martin, Mr. H. Shaw, Mr. Aphorp and Mrs. Wood, and it was announced that various articles from the fête would be put in a jumble sale to be held in the Parish Room in October and that at the Institute to-morrow (Wednesday) a whist drive would be held for the Red Cross Fund. Cheers were heartily accorded to Miss Crunden, and a memorable time ended with the singing of the National Anthem.

So successful was the fête that the proceeds, including the money from the entertainments on the previous Wednesday, amounted to about £113. Over 1,800 admission tickets were sold.