

games are always going on. The hut is in charge of a lady V.A.D. (Canadian) whose whole time and energy is given to entertaining the patients and managing the various activities of the place.

The recreation hut has, however, many more uses than these. As a rule there are two or three concerts or entertainments a week held in it. At the base there are a good many concert parties of various kinds, some of them of excellent quality, and composed of soldiers who, in civil life, were professional musicians, entertainers, or actors. These parties are ready and willing to give entertainments anywhere that they can find a room, a stage, and an audience. All these are there in the recreation hut. As a result, the patients are frequently treated to a couple of hours' good music or other kinds of amusement. In addition, there are several concert parties which come from England for the purpose of entertaining the soldiers, and these, too, are very ready to give a turn to the hospitals. The hut holds about 350, and at most of such "shows" it is crowded with an enthusiastic audience.

In the evening, after 7 o'clock, the N.C.O.'s and men of the unit enjoy the use of the hut, and, as may be supposed, take full advantage of the privilege. Any evening, when there is not a concert, up to 9.30, one can find a large crowd of them using the billiard tables, or reading the day's papers, or playing chess, or listening to the Edison gramophone, or the hospital orchestra at practice.

On Sunday the hut is fitted up as a Church, with an improvised altar, reading desk and chairs, and all the services, both Anglican and Nonconformist, are held there. The evening service, at which there is much singing of favourite hymns, is generally well attended, and in winter often crowded.

## SPORT

On active service sport may seem an anomaly, a perpetuation of the diversions of peace and leisure. On the contrary, athletics are the saving grace of military existence. Sport is a perfect antidote for the colourless monotony of base life, and even within range of the guns the Britisher seeks his keenest enjoyment and recreation in the realm of sport.

The organization and responsibilities of newly-equipped hospitals at St. Martin's Plains, England, and Cairo, Egypt, at first fully occupied the attention of our personnel. But once the hospital routine was running smoothly, the unit took advantage of the splendid situation and facilities of the Abbassia Barracks. A fast asphalt tennis court faced the Sergeants' Mess. A spacious sandy Campus gave excellent opportunities for soccer or baseball. Many interesting baseball games were played here by teams chosen from the unit. By special invitation of the American colony an exhibition game was played at Gezireh before a large audience. On two occasions the hospital nine defeated an all-Australian team. An all-American Baseball team played gilt-edged ball, and were only defeated by a close score after a most exciting finish. An exhibition Rugby match under Canadian Intercollegiate rules was played at Gezireh.

The personnel of the Baseball Team in Egypt was the following:—Catchers : T. H. Angrove, T. Third ; Pitchers : F. Barry, F. Carter ; 1st Base : W. Grassie ; 2nd Base : C. Young ; 3rd Base : E. Rutledge ; Shortstop : G. Harris ; Right Field : A. MacIntyre ; Centre Field : F. Carter ; Left Field : J. J. Dyer.

Later, in France, after the organization of the hospital was completed, there was the keenest interest taken in athletics. An enthusiastic meeting elected Colonel Etherington, Hon. President ; Major Polson, President ; Sergeant Third, Secretary ;