Nº 5'S CHRISTMAS THEATRICALS

NO. 5 long since established a reputation for versatility and excellence of talent by doing well every one of the many things it has tackled. In fact, at the risk of being charged with boasting we must say that No. 5 has generally been able to go its rivals one better. And its reputation has been no little enhanced by its latest venture—the constructing of a very respectable little theatre and the assembling and training of a splendid little troupe of "variety" entertainers to perform therein.

Originality has been the watchword of the chief promoters, Messrs Stuhardt and BuClay, or, if we may be excused the familiarity, Ptes. Stuart and Buckley, and in this respect they have scored, for their inaugural production was certainly "different". Realizing that even trench-weary Tommy has just about drawn a full "ration" of revue and, in the manner of his kind, was looking for a change of "issue", they decided to fool him for once and satisfy the want. Needless to say there was no one more surprised or delighted than that same T. W. Tommy.

The first show, as witnessed by the members of No. 5 on the evening of Jan. 2, and the patients on Dec. 30, consisted of nine vaudeville acts, every one of them very good, and all carried out with a smooth correctness of detail that would have done credit to professionals. The theatre was crowded to the doors for both performances and the audience hung on every word and gesture of the performers with that keen delight and eager expectation which betokens the very acme of success. As each of the various bright, clever little turns was concluded the prolonged applause indicated that the audience wanted more and still more and then some more. Enough said!

Ptes. Stuart and Buckley and all their talented assistants have reason to be proud of their achievement. And the unit as a whole has reason to be proud of them. The patients can take it out in enjoyment. But just a word of warning here: Is it not possible, if this sort of thing keeps up, that the hospital will become altogether too popular among potential patients?