ENTERTAINMENT AT HANDCROSS.

Proceeds for the District Nursing Association.

Over £12 has been raised for the Slaugham District Nursing Association as the result of an entertainment in Handcross Parish Hall, which was filled to capacity for the occasion. Mr. W. A. Robinson made the excellent arrangements, and the varied programme was enjoyed to the full. The Handcross Minstrels were given a great reception, their nigger minstrel songs, modern numbers, jokes and banjo selections bringing forth loud applause. Miss F. Shearlock was the pianoforte accompanist and Mr. W. A. Robinson the interlocutor. Others taking part were Messrs. C. D. O'Shea, R. Ray, W. Stevens, W. Wood, W. J. Robinson, D. Jakes, F. Edwards and J. Cowley, Masters Norman Poile, Hubert Jakes, Philip Etherton and John Chown, Mrs. R. D. Tulley, Mrs. W. Doggett, Mrs. Smith and Miss Blaby. Another appreciated item was a humorous play, entitled "The Wrong Flat" (J. B. Trenwith). It was given by Handcross school-children, and the characters were sustained by J. Chown (Ernest Barrington), P. Etherton (Billings), V. Smith (Tobias Puddicombe), S. Smith—(Mrs. Puddicombe), E. Cowley (Ethel Puddicombe), N. Poile (Monsieur Alphonse Petitpois) and B. Arnold (Madame Alphonse Petitpois). Warninglid members of the Junior Imperial League provided further mirth with a village farce called "Moggeridge's Cow." It was produced by Miss M. Symes and presented by L. Morley (Farmer Millet), F. Packham (Sam Dodge, a waggoner), R. Franklin (Herbert Bunridge, a baker), Miss M. Symes (Mrs. Millet) and L. Allard (Sally Millet), not forgetting the dog "Jim," which played its part well. Dr. G. B. Tait spoke in appreciation of the entertainment provided, and thanked the organizer and all others responsible.
second half of the entertainment was contributed by the Handcross Nigger Minstrels, under Mr. Bert Robinson as interlocutor. Through sickness and members joining the Forces, the Minstrels have been rehearsing under difficulties, but their hour’s programme was most praiseworthy. It included clever jokes and cross-talk, introducing local personalities, solos and concerted numbers and a delightful banjo medley. Among the favourites were the renderings of “There’ll Always be an England,” “Little Sir Echo” (by two “Piccaninnies”) and “The Siegfried Line.” For the last named two members of the party held a rope clothes line, while others “hung out the washing” in the form of excellent caricatures of Hitler, Goering, Goebbels and Lord Haw-Haw. The Minstrels were Mrs. R. D. Tulley, Mrs. J. A. Smith and Miss Blaby, Messrs. C. D. O’Shea, R. Ray, W. Stevens, W. Robinson, W. Wood and W. G. Mitchell, Masters Joseph Colburn, Hubert Jakes, Bernard Hooten, Phillip Etherton and Pat Clarke. Group Scoutmaster Victor Smith spoke in praise of the programme voluntarily given by Mr. Bert Robinson and his party, and warmly thanked them for their services. The remarks were endorsed by prolonged applause. The efficient pianoforte accompanists were Mrs. A. H. Coote, for the first part of the programme, and Miss F. Shearlock (Handcross), for the Minstrels.

Miss J. Hill and Miss K. Hill acted as usherettes, and Miss J. Oliver, Miss V. Oliver, Miss V. Tester and Miss B. B. Wood sold programmes. Mrs. Gibb assisted with a competition, Mr. A. H. Coote with the lighting arrangements, Patrol Leaders J. Stone and C. Botting with the curtains, Messrs. J. Tomlins and A. J. Steele as doorkeepers, Mrs. Victor Smith as wardrobe attendant and Mr. G. Pullen and Patrol Leader E. Etherton as stewards. The Balcombe Women’s Institute lent furniture, and Mrs. Oxley, J.P., and Mr. A. Marchant also helped.