

The League of St. John's House Nurses.

The second General Meeting of the League of St. John's House Nurses took place at 8, Norfolk Street, Strand, on Saturday last. There was a good attendance of members, and the discussion of the business was keen and animated.

The President, who was in the chair, gave a hearty welcome to all present, and said what a real pleasure it was to meet old friends on these occasions. She urged upon the members the consideration of the precept laid down recently by the Bishop of London, in addressing a large number of East End clubs and societies, that each member should consider not "What good will my club do *me*, what shall I get out of it," but rather "What good can I do my club?" While we speak much of the benefits to be derived from union, we must not forget that the Society is made up of individual members, and that the work of each one is needed to perfect and develop the whole.

The President also suggested that each member of the League should endeavour to get at least one past or present member of the House to join it during the coming year, and thus double the roll of members. She also reported, as a matter of interest to the members, that Miss Mollett is inaugurating a League of the Nurses of the Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital on the same lines as those formed in connection with St. Bartholomew's Hospital and St. John's House.

The President then announced letters of regret at inability to attend from Mrs. Day, Miss Thodey, Miss Hitchman, Miss M. A. Goodman, Miss Box, Miss Chittenden, Miss Pulker, Mrs. Cook, Miss Preston, Miss A. Baynes, Miss Ham, Miss B. Clarke, Miss Hayword, Miss Longbottom, and Miss Alcock.

The minutes of the last meeting were then read and confirmed.

REPORT.

The Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Mary Burr, then presented an excellent report and balance sheet, the balance in hand at the present time being £6 ros.

The report stated that the League started in June last with sixty members. Since then eight more have joined, and on the 1st of January it is hoped that sixteen of the members of the Debating Society, which it has been decided to amalgamate with the League, will be welcomed to membership. Many members of the Debating Society are already members of the League.

The report also spoke appreciatively of the first number of the "St. John's House News," and asked all members to support it, not only by

taking and getting others to take it, but also by sending to the editor contributions and items of news for insertion.

BYE-LAWS.

The draft bye-laws, which were in the hands of all the members, were then considered and discussed.

Amongst those who took part in the discussion were Miss Pearson, Miss Davis, Miss Passant, Miss Whait, Miss Millard, Miss Chittenden, and Miss Young, Miss Breay, and Miss Burr. Three amendments were proposed and carried, each bye-law being separately proposed, seconded, and put to the meeting. The bye-laws were then proposed as amended, en bloc, and carried unanimously.

THE BADGE.

In accordance with the instructions of the last general meeting, the Executive Committee had procured designs from several firms for a badge for the League, with estimates of the cost of production. One by Mr. A. Steele, of Cheltenham, bearing the eagle, emblematical of St. John, and the motto of the League, "Union is Strength," which was carried out in silver and blue enamel, met with general approval, and was unanimously adopted.

Miss Passant pointed out that it would be necessary to frame some regulation as to the return of badges in the event of resignation of membership, and it was decided to require the return of the badge in this case, and to refund the money paid for it.

STATE REGISTRATION IN NEW ZEALAND.

Miss Breay said that she thought the members would like to know that a Bill for the State Registration of Nurses had recently been carried in New Zealand. Foremost in working to secure its passage was Mrs. Grace Neill, Assistant Inspector of Hospitals, who received her training under St. John's House, at King's College Hospital. She thought the House had good reason to be proud of Mrs. Neill and her work.

Tea was subsequently served with the daintiness which characterises the hospitality of the House, after which an excellent and enjoyable musical programme was successfully gone through.

A song welled up in the singer's heart
Like a song in the throat of a bird,
And loud he sang, and far it rang,
For his heart was strangely stirred;
And he sang for the very joy of song,
With no thought of one who heard.

Within the listener's wayward soul
A heavenly patience grew,
He fared on his way with a benison
On the singer, who never knew
How the careless song of an idle hour
Has shaped a life anew.

ALICE W. BROTHERTON.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)