

discuss the possibility of following the example of the Royal United Hospital, Bath, and various other institutions in organising a guild for supplying linen and blankets to the Sanatorium.

The idea was warmly taken up and no less than sixteen ladies out of the eighteen present at the meeting undertook to become the first vice-presidents of the Association.

Then came the question of rules and regulations. After some discussion the following were adopted:—

#### GENERAL RULES.

The Association shall consist of the President, Patrons, Vice-Presidents, Associates, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary.

The Managing Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary.

The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Members of the Committee. She shall furnish an account every year of the money expended.

Donations and Annual Subscriptions shall be spent in purchasing the linen, blankets and mattresses not supplied by the Associates.

#### RULES FOR VICE-PRESIDENTS.

1. To pay an Annual Subscription of 2s. 6d.
2. To supply at least two articles of household linen annually. If preferred, an additional subscription of 7s. 6d. may be sent instead of work.
3. To advise her Associates as to the nature of their work, and to inform them where it may be purchased.
4. To receive her Associates' work and Subscriptions by September 8th, and to forward the former to the Lady Superintendent at the Sanatorium, and the latter to the Treasurer by September 15th.

#### RULES FOR ASSOCIATES.

1. To pay an Annual Subscription of 2s. 6d.
2. To supply at least two articles of household linen annually (details of which must be obtained from the Vice-President). If preferred, an additional subscription of 7s. 6d. may be sent instead of work.
3. To send in work and subscriptions to the Vice-President by September 8th.
4. Juvenile Associates under eighteen shall pay an Annual Subscription of 1s., and provide one article of linen. In special cases, other Associates may, at the discretion of their Vice-President, be admitted under these conditions.

It was further decided that, matters being urgent, a meeting of the Vice-Presidents to report progress should be held in six months time, and that this term should constitute the first financial year. This was done, and the Association at the close of the first six months had the satisfaction of handing over to the Sanatorium Committee money and linen representing a value of £75.

From the rules it will be seen that the backbone of the Society is the group of "Vice-

Presidents." Each of these ladies undertakes to procure as many "Associates" as possible, from each of whom she is to collect a subscription of 2s. 6d. and either two articles of linen or an additional sum of 7s. 6d.

The latter regulation has been a great factor in the success of the Association. Many ladies prefer to give the money, which is expended by the Matron, who is the Hon. Treasurer of the Guild, with power to sign its cheques.

This arrangement enables her to purchase any linen which may be urgently needed without calling the Vice-Presidents together, or waiting for their yearly meeting.

The Vice-Presidents all send their collections of linen and money to the Matron by a certain date. She has arranged to have the annual stocktaking of the institution linen during that week, and also to draw up an estimate of that which will be required for the coming year. She is thus able, after counting the linen sent in and deducting it from her list, to purchase the different articles necessary to complete her requisition.

The Vice-Presidents then hold their annual meeting, pass the report submitted to them, and audit the accounts. They also arrange with the Matron to have the linen (collected and bought) on view at the Sanatorium on a certain date, which is well advertised in the local papers (without charge, by the courtesy of the editors), and the general public are invited to inspect the whole institution. Afternoon tea is provided, each Vice-President undertaking to supply at least two cakes.

This "View Day" has already proved the means of interesting many in the work of the Sanatorium.

Vice-Presidents and Associates can only purchase their linen from the institution contractors. This ensures uniformity and prevents the undue repetition of too many articles of the same description, the Matron keeping the contractor informed as to which items are the most urgently required, and also requesting him to strike off his list those of which a sufficiency has been received.

As an illustration of the truth of the proverb, "Despise not the day of small things," it may be remarked that in the eighteen months of its existence the "Ladies' Household Linen Association" has provided the Sanatorium with £165 worth of linen, and this without the institution having to issue any "letters" in return or creating new "governors," as must be done for other contributions to its funds through the usual channels.

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