

# Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

## PHOTOGRAPH OF H.R.H. THE PRESIDENT.

We are glad to be able to reproduce in the New Year's issue of the Supplement this interesting and delightful photograph of Her Royal Highness the Princess Arthur of Connaught, R.R.C., S.R.N., President of the Corporation who has given us her gracious permission to do so. With her are Prince Arthur of Connaught, and her young soldier son, the Earl of Macduff. It will be remembered that the Princess is Duchess of Fife in her own right and that the Earl is heir to the Dukedom. May it be many long years before he assumes that title, but we wish him all success in his career as a soldier, as will many on the Princess's Scottish estate, where we learn that the young Earl is exceedingly popular.

## CHRISTMAS AT HEADQUARTERS.

Christmas was held with all the usual observances at Queen's Gate. It cannot be confined to 25th December; for a week or so before Christmas Day the post bag becomes more than ever a feature in the day's proceedings and at last the postman begins to look on himself as a veritable Father Christmas, as he brings in sackfuls of packages which he turns out on the floor, while he lingers to watch with amusement the scramble for their distribution.

Mrs. Johnson, Miss Forrest, and Miss Taylor decorated the Club artistically with evergreens kindly sent by Miss A. M. Bushby and Miss Swaby Smith saw to it that mistletoe was not lacking. Then we had gifts of beautiful flowers from Mrs. John Temple, Mrs. Duff-Miller, Mrs. Rees, Miss Banks, Miss Christopherson, Miss Derrick, Miss Greenshields, Miss Walker and others. On Christmas Day members attended various church services, and in the afternoon those resident in the Club, and others from outside, gathered to listen in the drawing-room to the greetings of the Mother Country, as they were passed on from one part of the Empire to another, until at last the circle was completed when South Africa sent the chain of the Empire thanks and greetings to London again, and then came His Majesty's speech.

A cosy chat over the fire with Christmas cake and tea, preceded a rather early Christmas dinner, as several of the Members were due for night duty; before dinner commenced, greetings were conveyed from H.R.H. the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mrs. John Temple, Miss Cutler, Dr. Stewart, Mr. Paterson and several others. The dinner was the usual gay adventure, and Mrs. Temple had provided us with fine wine, sweets, fruits and other nice things. A long list of toasts was honoured, for they seem to come spontaneously, and larger every year becomes the category of those who come in for this token of good will. The tables looked beautiful with their quantities of lovely bronze and yellow chrysanthemums and gay crackers. After dinner, every Member of the party joined in dancing, interspersed with old fashioned games.

But while the Members at Queen's Gate kept Christmas, we had not forgotten, at Headquarters, many sick and aged nurses to whom Christmas is apt to be little but a memory, and by a special effort, made during the autumn, we were able to distribute over £165 in grants of from £1 to £3 in

order to secure that some of our less fortunate colleagues should spend a comfortable and cheerful Christmas if possible. We just wish that all who collaborated in the effort made could read the letters received in acknowledgment. "Inasmuch as ye have done it," "I thought no one cared and you can't think what it has meant to find I'm remembered," these and many similar expressions served to show that our gifts were intensely appreciated.

## BIRTHDAY PARTY AND SALE OF WORK FOR THE HOUSE BEAUTIFUL FUND.

Space prevents us from being able to give any lengthy account of the Birthday Party which took place as usual on 7th December. We were glad that so many were able to be present to participate in the ceremony of cutting the Birthday cake, and commemorating the foundation of the Association. We thank all those who sent birthday gifts to their Association and are glad to be able to announce that the result of the Sale came to over £70.

## CLUB FIXTURES.

*Saturday, January 20th.*—Dance, 8 to 12 p.m.

*Thursday, January 25th.*—2 p.m. Ramblers Club visits the Exhibition of British Art at the Royal Academy. Tickets obtainable from the Secretary, Royal British Nurses' Association, at the special price of 1/—.

*Thursday, February 1st.*—3 p.m. Lantern Lecture on Journeyings through the Highlands and the Lowlands of Scotland, by Miss Isabel Macdonald.

## LECTURE.

### "THE ANCIENT CITY OF WESTMINSTER."

By Major Rigg, O.B.E., F.S.A.

When Sir Alfred Rice-Oxley took the Chair recently at a lecture given by Major Rigg on "The Ancient City of Westminster," he raised the question of whether the City of London might be considered as of greater importance than the City of Westminster. In commencing, Major Rigg said that he felt bound to give precedence to the former. As he stated, when lecturing upon it last year, the City of London has wonderful distinguishing characteristics of its own. Even as early as the times of the Norman Conquest it was in a position to make terms with the Conqueror. For centuries the dwellers in it were Freemen of the City, connoting an independence that gives a distinct character to the City of London to-day. Its Mayor has always been summoned to the first Privy Council after the death of a sovereign since the times of Edmund Ironside, and thereby it is taken that, before he ascends the throne, the new king assures the City of London of the continuance of its freedom and privileges.

In speaking of Westminster, Major Rigg said that the name carried its own meaning—the Minster west of St. Paul's; at one time there stood on Tower Hill a building

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