

The Nurses' Co-operation.

WE have received the following Report of the Committee of Management to the members of the Society, and to the Nurses on the staff of the Nurses' Co-operation, for the year ended December 31st, 1894, and cordially congratulate them on their success.

"A great step in advance has been made during the past year. The stability and permanence of the Association have been in great measure assured by the energy and ability of those whom we may call the Founders. Those who gave so much care to the enterprise from the beginning have now the pleasure of seeing their good work established on a solid basis by the licence obtained from the Board of Trade, in pursuance of Section 23 of the Companies Act, 1867.

The Committee of Management recommend that some of those who have been so conspicuous in helping forward this good work, should be made Vice-Presidents, viz. :—Sir William H. Broadbent, Bart., M.D., Miss Mary M. Belcher, Henry C. Burdett, Esq., Walter Burns, Esq., Charles Cheston, Esq., James F. Goodhart, Esq., M.D., Hon. Mr. Justice Kekewich, General Ross, W. Capel Slaughter, Esq.

The incorporation of the Society last summer necessitated several immediate changes. A small Committee of Management had to be formed out of the former large Committees, in order to comply with the Articles of Association.

The Committee have to record with regret the resignation by Miss Honnor Morten of the post of Hon. Sec. They take this opportunity of saying how greatly both Members and Nurses appreciate the valuable services Miss H. Morten has rendered the Nurses' Co-operation, and the zeal with which she helped forward the work at a time when few believed in its ultimate success.

The Committee have received great help in carrying on their work, and they wish to remind the Nurses how greatly they are indebted for advice and time given to them by the Hon. Physician, Hon. Surgeon and Hon. Solicitor.

That the Association has prospered is shown by the following statistics :—

The number of Nurses admitted on the Staff since the foundation of the Society is 420.

	Number of Nurses on the Roll.	Number of Cases to which Nurses have been sent.		Total.
		Medical.	Surgical.	
1891 ...	185 ...	812 ...	315 ...	1,127
1892 ...	204 ...	1,320 ...	412 ..	1,732
1893 ...	258 ...	2,122 ...	583 ...	2,705
1894 ...	287 ...	2,539 ...	753 ...	3,292

The Committee attribute this prosperity to the care and thought given to the work of the Association by the Lady Superintendent and the Home Sister, as well as to the high standard of efficiency of the Nursing Staff.

The Committee do not advertise for Nurses or for employment, and only the address of the registered office is given weekly in the *Lancet* and *British Medical Journal* for the convenience of medical men.

The Committee regret the resignation, by Nurse Frances Hall, of the post of Home Sister. Nurse Blanche Trew has been appointed in her place. Owing to the increase of office work it has been

found necessary to engage additional help, but the Lady Superintendent having accepted a fixed salary, instead of being partly paid by a percentage on the receipts, the Committee hope to be able to afford her the assistance of a book-keeper without raising the total amount to be paid in salaries.

Last summer it was arranged that the rooms at 8, New Cavendish Street should be open for an "At Home" once a month, so that Nurses might have more opportunities of meeting each other. Many have taken advantage of this. The Nurses are grateful to the proprietor of the Langham Hotel, who has continued to supply the office with papers.

FINANCE REPORT.

The Finance Committee have pleasure in reporting that the steady growth of business which marked the last three years has been fully maintained in 1894.

The gross receipts for the year ending December 31st, 1894, amount to £23,218 18s. 11d., as compared with £18,762 11s. 4d. and £14,448 9s. 2d. in the years 1893 and 1892 respectively.

Of this sum £21,469 11s. 3d. was paid to the Nurses, as compared with £17,249 18s. 4d. in 1893.

The income of the Co-operation, derived by a deduction of 7½ per cent. from the gross receipts, is a sum of £1,749 7s. 8d., an increase of £336 14s. 8d., as compared with the preceding year. The income would have been rather larger, but in view of the fact that the Nurses engaged in Massage are from the nature of their work compelled to find board and lodging for themselves during the greater part of the year, it was resolved that 7½ per cent. should be deducted only from two-thirds of their earnings.

A further sum of £71 3s. 1d. was derived from Home Fees, and £2 8s. 3d. as interest on a deposit account. Thus the total income for the year amounted to £1,822 19s.

The total expenditure amounted to £1,536 16s. 11d., showing an increase of £476 12s. 2d. as compared with the preceding year.

This increase in expenditure is in part a necessary accompaniment of the increased work of the Co-operation, but even under this head the Committee note that the important item of Postage and Receipt Stamps and Telegrams shows a decrease of £11 as compared with the preceding year. One item tending to increase the expenditure is the payment to Nurses of irrecoverable debts due to them from patients, in accordance with the terms of a resolution passed on December 12th. A sum of £23 16s. 6d. is in this way accounted for. Legal expenses in connection with the renewal of the lease and the incorporation of the Society amounted to £66 14s. 5d. But the largest item, viz., £241 9s. 7d., for drainage and repairs, may be considered as exceptional. At the beginning of the year the Committee found themselves compelled either to sanction this outlay or to move to new premises, and incur the risk attendant on a change of address. As a set off to this exceptional expenditure, it must be mentioned that certain causes of annually recurring inconvenience and expense have been thereby removed, and that the lease has been renewed on more favourable terms.

The excess of income over expenditure amounts to £286 2s. 1d., and this sum, added to the original donations, the subscriptions received since the date of incorporation, and a balance of £572 16s. 6d.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)