

## The Registered Nurses' Society.

(The first Co-operation of Chartered Nurses.)



THE monthly meeting of the Committee was held at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, on Thursday, July 9th, at 4.30 p.m. The Secretary's Report showed that, as usual, all the members were employed, and that the receipts showed a gratifying increase.

The thanks of the Committee were accorded to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick for having defrayed the cost of the *Conversazione* given, on June 10th, to the members and friends of the Society.

The Annual Report and the audited accounts were considered and approved.

The Committee then adjourned until the first Tuesday in October.

### THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.

This was held at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, on Thursday, July 9th, at 5 p.m., Dr. Bedford Fenwick, Treasurer of the Society, taking the chair.

The minutes of the first Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary then read

### THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Committee have the pleasure to report that the Society, during the past year, has obtained more public and professional support, and has therefore achieved even a greater measure of success, than that which they were able to announce at the first Annual Meeting.

During the past year, £4,576 has been received—an increase of just £500 on the receipts during the preceding fourteen months. The income of the Society is now slightly larger than its expenditure, and a large part of the advances made at first by members of the Committee has been repaid. The Committee are, therefore, strengthened in their decision to maintain the principles upon which they have hitherto acted—to restrict membership of the Society to the very best class of trained Nurses, and only to elect of such applicants a sufficient number to meet the demands made upon the Society. In consequence of this, the members have been almost constantly employed during the last year, and their earnings have in several in-

stances exceeded £130—the average receipts of those who have worked throughout the year amounting to £109, although each one has taken a good holiday.

The Committee have been fortunate enough to secure the active support, during the past year, of an increased number of leading medical practitioners, several of whom have consented to serve upon the Committee.

The Committee have reason to believe that an important development of the work of the Society may prove advisable during the coming year, and one which, if carried out, will greatly strengthen its position and its influence.

The Committee have much pleasure in expressing their high appreciation of the honourable conduct of Miss Gibson during the difficult circumstances of the past year, and of the excellence of the manner in which she has performed her duties as Assistant-Secretary.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

ETHEL G. FENWICK,

Hon. Superintendent.

The Chairman read the accounts as audited by a Chartered Accountant, and, in moving their adoption and that of the Annual Report, he called attention to their satisfactory character. From the first, the Committee had determined to go quietly forward, and to be content only with the very best Nurses as members, feeling confident that the reputation of the Society would thus become so firmly founded that it would gradually become recognised both by medical men and the public as the best Society of its kind. In the first fourteen months the receipts had averaged £291 per month. During the past twelve months they had averaged £381 a month, or an increase of £90 a month, and one upon which the Society might well congratulate itself. (Applause.) He would not refer to the disagreeable occurrences which took place in the early part of this year further than to express his opinion that nothing could have been more fortunate for the welfare of the Society. (Applause.) The present Committee were determined that the Society should succeed more and more every year, and he ventured to think that the Annual Meeting of 1897 would find the Society considerably more prosperous and successful than it was even at the present moment, when it was earning more than £5,000 a year, when its income exceeded its

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