

Nursing Echoes.

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In response to Lady Dimsdale's appeal on behalf of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nurses' Institute, the members of the Stock Exchange have subscribed more than £1,700, which will now bring the amount she has collected in the City to over £3,200.

We have received this week the journals of two Nurses' Leagues, that of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, as usual well got up, and containing chatty items of information, as well as brightly-written articles, and also the first number of the *Chelsea Infirmary Nurses' Journal*, to which we offer a cordial welcome. Very tasteful it looks in its pretty rose-coloured cover, and the contents afford interesting reading. The Badge adopted by the League is a St. Andrew's Cross. Of this decision the editor writes:—

"A great effort was made to find something that would be distinctive of Chelsea; but after many fruitless inquiries we found that there was no Chelsea coat-of-arms, and the only suggestions made to us were of 'Old Chelsea China' and the 'Chelsea Bun.' These, though excellent in their own way, would hardly answer the purpose we required. We have chosen the St. Andrew's Cross, one bar of which in our design represents the Roman fasces, typifying the strength of union. The other bar bears the initials of Chelsea Infirmary Nurses' League, and the centre band our motto, 'Junctae fortiores' ('United we are more strong')."

An interesting article in the journal is one by Miss Margaret Baldwin, who is working in the C.M.S. Hospital in Foochow. Then there is a letter from the Dowager Lady Dufferin, describing the work of the Lady Dufferin Fund in India, and a word of welcome from Mr. Justin McCarthy. The journal also contains a list of the members and associates of the League, for, besides the actual members—nurses who have received their certificates at Chelsea—a certain number who have joined the Infirmary for a short period have been admitted as associates.

The objects of the League are defined as follows:—

(a) To form a bond of union between the nurses of Chelsea Infirmary—past, present and future.

(b) To afford to the members and associates of the League the strength and support of union and co-operation.

(c) To enable members and associates who have left the Infirmary to keep in touch with their training-schools, no matter where they may be.

At the General Council Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association—at which Mr. Pickering Pick presided, in the absence of the President, Princess Christian—Mr. Langton conducted the business. Other medical members were conspicuous by their absence. The Treasurer had again to report a balance on the wrong side for the quarter's receipts and expenditure, the receipts being £202 5s. 4d. and the expenditure £209 0s. 2d.

The report which Mr. Langton presented announced that Dr. Comyns Berkeley had been nominated as Medical Hon. Secretary in place of Mr. E. A. Fardon, resigned. The nomination was of course expected by all who are acquainted with the true inwardness of R.B.N.A. politics. Dr. Comyns Berkeley, who has held various house appointments at the Middlesex Hospital, first gained notoriety in the Nurses' Association during the year which preceded the thrusting through of the new by-laws, when his conduct was quite in accordance with the best Middlesex methods. Mr. Fardon, now that he has been compelled to retire, no doubt finds it convenient to have so apt a pupil (now obstetric tutor in the Medical School of Middlesex Hospital) as his successor. But self-respecting nurses who took part in the meetings of the Association from 1893-1897 will, we predict, never again accord their confidence to the Association until the Middlesex marionettes and their methods of management are eliminated once and for all.

Miss Oldham, Matron of the Hospital for Paralysis and Epilepsy, having been nominated to serve as the representative of the Association on the Central Midwives' Board, Mr. Langton announced that the Executive Committee had decided that the conversazione should not be held this year. The formality of consulting the members was obviously considered unnecessary, and the decree of the Executive Committee conclusive, notwithstanding the fact that the published programme of the Association provides for an annual conversazione, and that for the last fifteen years it has been held.

The Chairman put the report to the meeting, and explained it only had the option of refusing or receiving Dr. Comyns Berkeley as Mr. Fardon's successor; if it refused him the matter must be referred back to the Executive, and this would cause much delay.

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