

Twenty new members had been elected during the year and six resignations received, three of these latter upon marriage. The cases attended had been 824—medical 465 and surgical 359—and 153 new doctors had sent to the office for nurses during the past twelve months. Many letters of warm appreciation of the nurses' work, and not one serious complaint of any kind, had been received from patients attended and their friends, and also from medical men under whose directions the members had performed their duties.

From the audited accounts the Society had received £8,513 in Nursing fees—an increase of £750 on the receipts of last year.

The earnings of the nurses, who have been at work for more than half the year, have varied from £163 16s. for 52 weeks' work, to £90 12s. for 26 weeks' work; the average being no less than £93 1s. 3d. for an average of exactly 39 weeks' work. As almost every member took eight weeks' holiday, and the average earnings of all the nurses on the staff per week was £2 8s., there is good reason to believe that no other Nursing Association can show more satisfactory figures.

The annual report having been adopted, Dr. Fenwick congratulated the members on the sound basis upon which the success of the society was founded. Judicious advertisement was good, but the best advertisement was the good work of the members themselves. Each member had it in her power to increase the popularity and success of the society by the personal interest she took in it, by the manner in which she individually devoted herself to duty, by her tact and sympathy with patients, friends, and doctors. Co-operation meant giving as well as taking, and this was the lesson each member on a co-operation should take to heart. As Treasurer of the society, Dr. Fenwick congratulated the members on the admirable manner in which Sister Cartwright conducted the business of the office, on her unselfish attention to duty, and pointed out how much of the success of the Society resulted from her work.

One of the vital principles upon which the Registered Nurses' Society is founded is that of self-government, the members being encouraged to take an active part in the management of their own affairs. Six Sisters have seats on the Committee, three retiring annually in rotation after two years' work. Sisters Hoddinott and Wood were this year elected to fill two vacancies upon the retirement of Sisters Heather and Manley. Hearty votes of thanks to the Hon. Officers and Sister Cartwright were passed with acclamation, after which one of "Sister's" teas, now so far famed,

opened the flood gates of animated conversation, and a pleasant reunion was held until it was time to run away and catch cars and trains.

### A French Nursing Paper.

No. 1 of *La Garde Malade Hospitalière*, the organ of the schools of nursing, founded on the Florence Nightingale (that is the English) system, in France, and published at Bordeaux, has just reached us, and we note first and foremost that it is a genuine nursing paper, conducted by an editorial committee of trained nurses, and will, therefore, rank as a professional journal. This committee is composed of Miss Elston, Superintendent of the Civil Hospital of Tondu, Bordeaux; Mlle. Gachon, Superintendent of the Civil and Military Hospital of Alais; Dr. Hamilton, Superintendent of the Protestant Hospital at Bordeaux and Vice-President for France of the International Council of Nurses (whose Thesis on Nursing read before the Medical Faculty at Paris has been the great lever of trained nursing in France); Mlle. Luigi, Superintendent of the Civil and Military Hospital at Béziers; and Mlle. Nectoux, Superintendent of the Civil Hospital at Issoire; Dr. Lande, Administrator of Civil Hospitals at Bordeaux and a member of the *Assistance Publique*, and Dr. Regnault as an advisory staff.

The policy of the journal is to encourage co-operation amongst trained nurses, and thus form them into *une grande famille* for the benefit of the sick and their profession, to organise their system of education, to put them *au courant* with nursing progress in France or elsewhere, with hospital work and with everything which will be useful for them to know; in short, to bring nurses in touch with each other and the outer world, and also to interest the general public in the work, education and progress of modern nursing—a very happy programme, which will we feel sure be immensely beneficial to all concerned.

The first article published is Miss Isla Stewart's now historic paper on The Twentieth Century Matron, read before the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland (which, by-the-by, should have been quoted from this journal, the official organ of the Matrons' Council, in which, of course, it was originally published). Miss C. Elston follows with a paper on the English Army Nursing Service, and there are other useful articles and notes.

We offer congratulations and a warm welcome to our new contemporary.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)