

Mr. Alvey, Secretary of the Hospital, in an eloquent speech, returned thanks to Lord Kilmorey, Mr. Herman Senn, and Miss Richards, the teacher, to which Lord Kilmorey suitably replied, and those present then adjourned to partake of an excellent tea to which they were hospitably bidden by Miss Heather-Bigg, the Matron, who is keenly interested in the success of the cookery classes, which owe their inauguration to her energy.

The German Nurses Association.

When the German Nurses' Association was founded on January 11th, 1903, by 30 Sisters under the leadership of Sister Agnes Karll, nobody would have thought that, in little more than four years, it would number more than 1,500 members, 1,389 of them nurses. Sister Agnes Karll has been President from the beginning. At first there were only four other officers, but now there are eight, elected every year at the General Meeting in the first quarter of the year. These officers are for this year: President, Sister Agnes Karll; Vice-President, Sister Clara Weidemann; Secretary, Sister Elise Wegener; Treasurer, Sister Maida Lübben; Auditors, Sister Lydia Edelbüttel, Sister Emma Zeeck, Sister Jutta Stegemann, Sister Clara Freitag, Sister Elly von Frankenberg.

Besides this Committee, there is an "Ehrenrat," formed of the President, Secretary, and three active members elected yearly to decide about disciplinary matters.

The business of the German Nurses' Association grew so rapidly that it could not all be transacted by the officers of the Committee, and on the 1st of April, 1903, an office was taken in which six salaried Sisters, under the leadership of the President, dealt with the piles of work coming every day. The monthly amount of letters was then about 1,153 received and 843 sent out, besides the Journal, delivered every fortnight to all members, ladies' clubs, "Fürsorge," "Auskunfts-und Rechtsschutzstellen," and many subscribers.

In the year 1906 the number of letters received was 10,420, and sent out 9,646; 242 nurses were sent by the office to hospitals and nursing homes, 487 to private cases and poor people, 16 to visiting cases. There is very simple accommodation at the offices for Sisters passing through Berlin, just to stay a night or a few days, which was used by 20 of them. In the library are more than 362 volumes in different languages, which are freely used. The grand exhibition of arts gave 250 free tickets to the members of the G.N.A.,

and another small but very fine exhibition of arts (Keller and Reiner) always gives tickets at half-price if they have something special like the beautiful exhibitions of Meunier's "Monument of work," and Bartholomé's "Aux Morts." Many tickets for concerts and lectures are sent to the office by friends, and every month in the winter there is a lecture by a doctor or some other interesting person. Every week the Sisters can come one afternoon to an English or French course without paying. The amount of money going through the hands of the office-treasurer was 15,422.27 marks, besides 16,961.86 marks premium for insurance delivered to the "Deutscher Anker." The G.N.A. has an extra-fund of 6,702.63 marks, of which 1,280.87 marks were given to 13 Sisters, 195 marks annuity to one invalided Sister, and 1,410.90 marks were lent to different Sisters. The nurses of the G.N.A. are bound to take besides the State Insurance a private one, so that they have in case of sickness at any time or in old age an annuity of 800 marks and more. But, of course, only the healthy and younger ones are able to make the latter arrangement, and so many of them will have only the State annuity of 2-300 marks a year, and the Association will have to take care of a good many of them in the coming years, because German nurses were not accustomed to take care of themselves till the last ten years, most of them being bound to religious or philanthropic institutions, which took care of them in old age and sickness, or sometimes made believe they would do so, and so it was hard for them to learn how. But now we have found the way. Just lately the G.N.A. has been incorporated, and is now able to receive legacies and donations. It is hard that one bequest of 60,000 marks was lost last year, because the incorporation took such a long time to carry through, but another legacy of 8,000 marks left by a Westphalian lady, who died in December, 1906, can now be paid to the G.N.A.

A very good thing for the Sisters of the Association is that they, like the members of the religious orders, have only to pay half fare on all the trains if they move to a fresh post or take a holiday. Two of the Sisters have now finished their 30th year of nursing, three of them the 25th, and ten the 20th.

The work of the Sisters of the G.N.A. is very varied. During 1906 there were: In private duty 491, in hospitals 245, in nursing homes 146, in asylums 55, in babies' homes 39, in the fight against tuberculosis 40, in district work 47, and so on. Fifty-nine Sisters undertook nursing of the poor, besides their private duty, and 88 did duty in their own

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