

General Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League.

The winter meeting of the League was held on Saturday, November 12th, in the Lecture Theatre of the Hospital, over fifty members being present; Miss Musson, President, in the chair.

Before the business of the meeting began, the President referred to the death of Miss Florence Nightingale, and proposed that the members should record on the minutes their earnest devotion and respect for the great Founder of their profession, and their determination to carry on to the best of their power the work which she had begun. This was carried in silence, all standing.

The short business programme was soon concluded, and was followed by an address from Dr. Auden, Medical Officer to the Birmingham Education Board, on "Medical Inspection in Schools and its Possibilities." The subject as put forward by Dr. Auden proved to be most interesting, and inspired the audience with a wish to learn more of this very important branch of social work. The importance of securing the interest of the children's parents, and the need for co-operation between the various charitable agencies and institutions were emphasised, and also the necessity for personal service.

A hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Auden was passed, on the proposal of Miss Mossop, seconded by Miss Hannath.

The members then adjourned to the Board Room, where tea was served, and a pleasant hour was passed in chatting to old friends.

The School Nurses' League.

A very successful and enjoyable dance was held on Friday, 11th November, at St. Bride's Institute, in connection with the School Nurses' League Benevolent Fund, when most of those present were garbed in most charming and varied fancy dress, and a very brilliant assembly it was. Dancing began at 8 p.m. to the strains of Mr. Philimore's excellent orchestra. There were many more ladies than gentlemen present, but the former were in no wise dismayed, and gaily trod the light fantastic toe with one another. Mr. Nettlefield had undertaken the onerous duties of Master of the Ceremonies, which was no easy task, but with courage in both hands, he whipped up the available partners and introduced them to the many colleens, fish wives, geisha and Japanese girls, and all the flowers of the flock, who surrendered their programmes cheerfully.

After the interval, when refreshments were partaken of, and very much appreciated, the band struck up a processional march and a gorgeous cavalcade filed past the judges—Miss Pearse, Miss Nettlefield, and Mr. Loft—who had a difficult task to perform. The leader of the company was a lady in verdant green as "Keep off the Grass," who was closely followed by "The Blue Bird," "Ophelia," "A Witch," "Entente Cordiale," Pierrot and Pierrette, a Toreador with a gay Spanish girl, an Italian sailor with Red Riding Hood, Dick Turpin, with a Gipsy Fortune-teller, "Pride and Prejudice," with a stately Grecian lady, a nodding Mandarin and a black-hatted Welsh woman, "Cherry Ripe," a dear little Pierrot and a dainty mite as "Spring," the Duchess of Devonshire wended her stately way beside a coal black "Dinah," Mrs. Jarley and Mrs. Edwards' Desiccated Soup were close together, a Doctor of Law escorted Aunt Martha, radiant in a poke bonnet, over her curls, whilst a Collegiate girl was seen in striking contrast to an Eastern lady in Indian dress and a Tête Masquée. There were also Dutch men and girls in sabots, a Bretonne fish girl in clogs, a yachtswoman with her own "ship ahoy!" and a most charming trio of babies, two girls and a boy, who said he was a "foundling," but was evidently not sufficiently trained, as he could not do without his comforter.

The prizes were offered for the best dresses in each of three classes:—(1) *For the prettiest dress* Miss Wilkins won a pendant and chain for her costume as a Spanish dancer, and well deserved to carry off the palm, and Mr. Nettlefield was awarded a silver cigarette case for his costume as a fully equipped Bandeliero. (2) *For the most original dress* Miss Clapp was presented with a purse; she looked as if she had stepped down from Mrs. Bull's poster, "Mrs. Brown on the situation," and Mr. Hitchman received a silver-mounted letter-case for his costume as a phlegmatic Dutchman. (3) *For the most comical characters*: In this class Miss Williams was an easy first as "Dinah" and won a fitted bag, and Mr. Lancaster deserved his prize of a silver match-box for his clever impersonation and dress of a jester. The "Foundling" was highly commended, as was also "Hard Times," a dress made entirely of brown paper. Mr. Loft also acted as Master of the Ceremonies for the progressive whist party, which was held in the adjoining hall. The winners for the game were Miss Macintosh, whose prize was a silver-mounted scent bottle, and Miss Ethel Clapp, who gained a trump-marker.

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