

tiful miniature exhibits attached to each section, is now on view at *The Englishwoman's Exhibition of Arts and Crafts*, at the Maddox Galleries, Maddox Street, W., where nurses in uniform are admitted for 6d. Probably the exhibit may find its way to the Cologne Congress next year.

THE HARVEST FESTIVAL.

The Harvest Festival took place in the evening, when the Bishop of Polynesia preached to a crowded congregation. The chapel was beautifully decorated with exquisitely coloured autumn leaves and flowers, wheat and other corn, by Mrs. Downes, the wife of the chaplain, a late Home Sister of the Infirmary, and was immensely admired.

SWIMMING CLUB PRIZES.

After the Service the guests and members repaired to the Recreation Room, where refreshments were served. The Chairman of the Guardians, Mr. Banbury, kindly came and presented the prizes which had been won that week by the members of the Nurses' Swimming Club. The prizes were laid out on a table in the room, and consisted of hat pins, sleeve links, blouse sets, scent bottles, etc. The Chairman's own prize was a beautiful little charm in the form of a trout, and was won by the Captain of the Club, Sister Grace, for a three-length race of the baths.

Thus ended one more happy annual meeting of the Chelsea Infirmary Nurses' League.

GENERAL HOSPITAL BIRMINGHAM NURSES' LEAGUE.

The General Hospital Birmingham Nurses' League will hold its Annual Meeting at the Hospital on November 11th. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has been invited to attend and speak on the State Registration of Nurses, which she has consented to do. If time permits, Mrs. Fenwick will conclude with a short survey of the Duties of a Central Nursing Council, which the Registration Bill now before Parliament will call into existence. The primary duty of such a Council would be to define the curriculum of training, and examinations qualifying for Registration, work in which every matron should take a keen interest.

THE LEAGUE OF ST. JOHN'S HOUSE NURSES.

At a general meeting of the League of St. John's House Nurses held at 12, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, W.C., on Thursday, October 26th, a resolu-

tion supporting the suggestion that nurses should unite to form themselves into an "Approved Society," in connection with the National Insurance Bill, was carried unanimously.

The President, Miss Laura Baker, proposed the establishment of a Benevolent Fund, to be administered on behalf of necessitous members, and founded it with a donation of £5. Contributions subsequently collected in the room amounted to £1.

After an enjoyable interval for tea, during which some of the visitors took the opportunity of seeing the new decorations in the Chapel, Miss Amy Hughes, General Superintendent, Q.V.J.I., gave an address on the National Insurance Bill as it affects nurses. Miss Hughes advised nurses not to endeavour to contract out of the Bill, and to strive to obtain the deletion of the proposed amendment in regard to contracting out with employers. She emphatically advised nurses to form their own Society under their own control, to fight and work hard for it, and to educate others, as far as they could, on these points.

IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

ULSTER BRANCH.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The fifth annual meeting of the Ulster Branch, I.N.A., was held at the Deaf and Dumb Institute on October 24th. Miss M. Workman, Hon. Secretary, read the report and stated that during the year the Club room had been closed, as the use made of it by members did not warrant the expense of keeping it open. Since the closing of the Club, by the kindness of Miss Bostock, Matron of the Royal Infirmary, the lectures had been given to the members at the Infirmary, while Miss White, Superintendent of the district nurses' Home, had given the Executive Committee permission to use her rooms for their meetings. The Association had had several social gatherings, and Dr. Hicks had lectured on *The Physiology of the Abdominal Organs*, while Dr. Fielden had lectured on *Suggestive Medicine*. The membership had decreased either through members forgetting to send in their subscriptions or from other causes.

Lady Hermione Blackwood, President of the Ulster branch, was in the chair, and referred to the excellent work done in Dublin by the Irish Nurses' Association. She said that, owing to the representations of the Dublin Committee, nurses would in the future be classified in the census under four separate headings instead of coming under the heading of domestic services as hitherto. The Dublin Committee has continued steadily to work at the State Registration Bill, and is now engaged in drawing up amendments to the Insurance Bill as regards its provisions for nurses. Lady Hermione said there was a rumour that a system of cottage nursing was to be introduced into Ireland, and that it was said "inexpensive nurses" were to be brought over to Ireland to nurse in rural districts.

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