

QUEEN'S NURSES AT HOME.

The Mayor of Hammersmith, Mr. Mayle, presided at the At Home given on Wednesday, December 6th by Miss Curtis, the Superintendent, and the nurses of the Hammersmith and Fulham District Nursing Association, when the results of the collections in boxes, cards, and local offertories at churches and chapels were announced. There were also present on the platform the Mayoress, Miss Mayle, Sir William Bull, M.P., and Lady Bull, Dr. Fry, Hon. Secretary, Mr. Von Glehn, Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Harrison, Miss Curtis, and others. The Mayor said that the Association was celebrating its 21st anniversary, and the work it had achieved was most creditable. In reference to the financial statement, his Worship said that on looking through the list of subscribers he was surprised to miss the names of many important business people in the borough who should contribute considerably. He supposed that as he, an old resident, had not heard of the Association till the Superintendent had recently brought it to his notice, other business men might be in the same position, and he hoped a special feature would be made of canvassing them. Though they might have stern countenances, many had sympathetic hearts. He hoped that more contributions would be forthcoming in the future from the commercial community.

Dr. Fry then read the list of collectors and collections, which represented a great deal of hard and self-denying work in raising small sums, the contents of one box having been collected in farthings. The total sum contributed by the collectors was £126 16s. 1d.

Sir William Bull, M.P., warmly thanked the donors for their work, and said that he could not express, on behalf of the Committee, how grateful they were for the addition of such a handsome sum to the funds. There was no nobler, better, or more Christian-like work than the work of the nurses. He spoke of the desire of the Committee to establish a Reserve Fund, and the importance of securing the freehold of Carnforth Lodge, the present headquarters of the Association, as it was in an ideally central position for work in the two boroughs. Sir William Bull then explained that, through the good offices of Miss King, a friend of the Association, he hoped a small legacy had been secured. Miss King had interested Mrs. Harrison, whose husband, as the executor of an estate, had trust money to assign, and

through her it was probable that a legacy of £150 would be received, which he hoped would form the nucleus of a permanent endowment fund.

Mrs. Harrison endorsed this statement, which was received with much applause.

Sir William Bull announced that the Association was hoping to extend its borders to Acton and Barnes. They had a thoroughly able and experienced staff, and their Superintendent, Miss Curtis, who had been with them for 21 years, was well able to give the additional supervision. It was hoped they might get some support from these districts if they gave them a *quid pro quo* in the shape of a fully qualified nurse.

Mr. Von Glehn, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Mayor and Mayoress, to Sir William and Lady Bull, and to Miss Irene Brown, the organiser of the collecting books, said that from personal experience he knew it was very difficult to get at the heads of business houses. When he called, he frequently did not see the principals. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Councillor Levi, a good friend of the Association, and heartily carried.

Both before and after the business meeting a programme of vocal and instrumental music was admirably rendered by many kind friends, and Miss Harding's recitations, especially "Jim's Overcoat," deserved and received great applause. The vocal trios, "There was an old woman who lived in a shoe" and "Peter Piper," were wonderfully clever. Throughout the afternoon tea and coffee and other good things were most hospitably served on small tables at the end of the hall, Miss Curtis and the nurses doing everything in their power to ensure the comfort of their guests.

In reply to enquiries, Miss D. A. Snell is the English Matron at the Scuola Convitto "Regina Elena," attached to the Policlinico at Rome, to whom all enquiries concerning the school should be addressed. Miss Amy Turton kindly keeps our interest in the school up to date by her most interesting letters on nursing matters in Italy. We are pleased to know that this good work of training nurses in Italy, difficult as it is, is making wonderful progress, and we hope to have the pleasure of meeting some of the pioneers of trained nursing in Italy at the Cologne Congress.

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