

Press, the Matrons, and all the hon. lady secretaries who gave so much time to working up our Choral.

We feel, as your executive committee, satisfied at our progress during the past terms, and can only hope the coming one will make as good progress.

SPEECH OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, MISS E. C. BARTON.

"I should like, as Vice-President of our Choral League, to say just a word or two.

"We all appreciate the power and charm of music, and how much it can soothe and stimulate us in our daily work.

"A great many lectures are provided for nurses, and guilds and entertainments of various kinds, but, as far as I know, there is no other society for bringing music into the lives of nurses who are working in institutions.

"Mrs. Carreg-McCowan has had the happy thought of starting classes which have this object in view, and she has provided such excellent teachers and accompanists that each class is like an individual singing lesson, and teaches part singing, so that the nurses learn a great deal more than just merely the music before them. The Choral League has been so well organised that the members have the satisfaction of knowing that, financially, it is practically self-supporting.

"It is only natural among such a migratory community, as nurses, who are always changing, that it is not always easy to have a sufficient number of musical nurses to form a class. At present, owing to a lack of singing nurses, the classes at Fulham, Shoreditch and Upper Edmonton Infirmaries have been temporarily suspended, but hope at a future time to commence again. Two new classes have been started at St. Marylebone and at Hammersmith Infirmaries. Individual nurses who wish to can always attend at Central classes for practice.

"It has been customary in the past to have in the winter two separate terms, one ending at Christmas with a concert and the other in March. It has been decided, after much consideration, to make a new departure this winter, and have one term of classes spread out through the winter and one concert which would take place in February or March. The concerts in the past have been most enjoyable; we shall look forward to this next one, at which a cantata will be sung.

"I am sure I am speaking for all the members when I say we deeply appreciate all that our President, Mrs. Carreg-McCowan, has done, and is doing, for the Choral League, the thoughtful and skilful way she has worked out every detail so that the classes may be as helpful and enjoyable as possible, also for her kind hospitality and unflinching courtesy and sympathy to the nurses. I beg to move a most hearty vote of thanks to our President."

The vote was passed by acclamation.

The Nurses' Choral and Social League has

quite a special line of work all its own, and is calculated to meet the need of fresh and outside interests for nurses, and to act as a relaxation from their very serious work.

Its objects are to draw together all trained nurses and their friends, to form classes of different kinds for mutual improvement and social intercourse. The committee, largely composed of nurses, finds teachers, arranges concerts and receptions, and makes financial arrangements.

Nurses attend concerts in full indoor uniform, and honorary members wear white blouses or dresses.

For the present the centre of the League is at 50, Queen's Gate, London, S.W., where all information may be obtained from Mrs. Carreg-McCowan by letter.

### NURSES' NEEDLEWORK GUILD.

The show of the Nurses' Needlework Guild, on view at the Annual At Home of the Nurses' Co-operation, at 35, Langham Street, W., on Friday, December 6th, exceeded that of all previous years, both numerically and also in attractiveness and utility. Miss Hoadley, Lady Superintendent of the Nurses' Co-operation, was present throughout the afternoon, receiving the guests with great geniality and kindness, and Miss Laura Baker, the Sister-in-Charge, who is also the Hon. Secretary of the Guild, looked after the comfort of the 350 visitors, and received many congratulations on the year's work. The garments numbered 1,225, and included not only warm petticoats, knickers, nightdresses, woollies, and every kind of useful garment for women and girls, but men's shirts, vests, and 27 delightful great-coats for boys, and a most fascinating collection of baby garments and boots. Amongst others present were Miss Gethen, Secretary of the Co-operation, Dr. Ethel Lamport, and Miss C. B. Leigh, Matron of the Central London Sick Asylum. Tea was served in the charming restaurant, and at 5.30, as soon as the guests had departed, the business began of despatching parcels to the recipients, for distribution amongst outgoing patients. The institutions which shared the good things were the following hospitals:—Guy's, St. Mary's, Paddington, the London, University College, the Royal Free, the Metropolitan, the Miller, the West Ham Hospital, the Brompton Hospital for Consumption, the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Tottenham, the Mildmay Hospital, the British Lying-in, the Clapham Maternity, the East End Mothers' Home, Poplar Hospital for Accidents,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)