

R.M.S. "Arawa," on her way out to that institution, where she also has obtained an appointment. From British Columbia and Canada many cheery messages have also flowed in upon us, Sister Peyton having written from Vancouver City, Sister Dorran from Vancouver Island, Sister Pressly from Ottawa, and Sisters Endall and Roe from Winnipeg. Very cordially we thank them all for this grip of friendship across the seas.

From old colleagues nearer home our letter-bag has been still more abundantly filled, and a surprise visit on New Year's Day from Sister Hurlston, one of the Society's foundation members now in charge of the Children's Convalescent Home, Gullane, N.B., afforded us much pleasure, and she is as keen as ever as to everything concerning the welfare of the nursing profession.

On many of the Sisters at present on the Staff the Old Year has left a shadow of sadness, for perhaps never before, in a few short months, have such a number lost relatives near and dear to them. It is with sincerest sympathy we feel for them.

As the members of the R.N.S. are now sought after to fill good posts both at home and abroad, 14 highly trained new members were appointed recently on probation.

It is satisfactory to note that the year 1913 was financially the most successful since the Society was organized in 1894.

#### DISTRICT NURSING.

At a meeting of the Pitlochry District Nursing Association the members had the position as regards the Highlands and Islands medical service scheme explained to them. Mr. H. Mitchell presided. It was agreed to apply for a capital grant of £200 to provide an operating room in connection with the Nursing Home, and an annual grant of £150.

With regard to district nursing, Lady Tullibardine explained the proposals to form a Central Association for the whole Highland district of Perthshire, which, she pointed out, would see that the needs of each locality were adequately met; would arrange the boundaries of the districts so as to give the most efficient service; would tend to economy; and would be more likely to get a better grant for the Highland District from the Board. She urged the importance of seeing that the poorer classes of maternity cases had maternity nurses at fees within their means. The Central Association would not interfere with the work of the individual Associations nor with the engaging of nurses, but might possibly lay down a minimum qualification, and it might be desirable to

arrange uniform conditions. She suggested federation rather than amalgamation, and thought a Central Council would be a guarantee to the Board in Edinburgh that the whole question of nursing in the Highland District of Perthshire was being carefully thought out.

Lady Tullibardine stated that there would probably be ten District Associations represented. Ultimately it was agreed that, while favouring the new scheme, it be remitted to the Committee of Management, with full powers to join the proposed Association if thought desirable.

We very sincerely hope that if this Central Association is going to define professional standards of nursing, it will avail itself of responsible nursing opinion on its Council, and do nothing to encourage the employment of nurses of an inferior quality to Queen's Nurses in district work.

#### FROM OVER SEAS.

Sister Agnes Karll sends greetings from Berlin for the New Year. She writes:—"And may it at last bring the fulfilment of the most ardent wish of British Nurses, State Registration. My heart is full of pride over your splendid fight on all sides, specially for your street protest in the Queenie Gerald and 'Nurse Betty' case."

Sister Karll sends reprints of some of the illustrations in the German edition of "The History of Nursing." By some necromancy she has obtained a picture of the author, Miss L. L. Dock, which will greatly enhance the value of the German translation.

In sending us greetings from India and best wishes for the New Year, Mrs. Klosz, the editor of *The Nursing Journal of India* hopes "that things will soon begin to look brighter for English nurses. They should do so with all the heroic efforts you people are making."

It is good anyway that through international federation the nursing question in England is well understood by our colleagues abroad, and that both as nurses and women we have their warm sympathy in our efforts to obtain just conditions for sick people and ourselves.

We learn that School Nursing is making great strides in Canada; this is sure to result from the fine work of Mrs. Struthers, née Rogers, who is in charge of school nursing in Toronto. These nurses will hold their annual At Home on January 16th, when they intend to have a gay time, dancing from 8 to 12 p.m. The Forest School, with rest hour under the trees, is being widely adopted.

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