

# Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by



Royal Charter.)

**THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.**

## THE SECOND READING OF THE NURSES' REGISTRATION BILL.

Members of the Association have learnt that, during the past week, another milestone has been reached in the long and difficult journey towards the goal of State Registration, and the news of the Second Reading of the Bill of the Central Committee for State Registration has brought expressions of satisfaction from nurses in all parts of the United Kingdom.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRESIDENT  
CONGRATULATES THE MEMBERS.

It will give to Members of the Association great pleasure to know that the first message of congratulation to reach the Association on the Second Reading of the Bill came from Her Royal Highness the President. For immediately the accounts of what had taken place in the House of Commons in the afternoon became known, Her Royal Highness telephoned to the office personally to congratulate the Members upon their success in obtaining a Second Reading for the Bill and, further, sent her gracious commands that her congratulations should at once be sent to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the leader of the movement for State Registration. That Members of the Association will know that their hands have been greatly strengthened in the effort to obtain State Registration by the way in which their President has stood by their Association, often when it has been passing through very stormy waters, is evidenced by the fact that one of the first things which some Members of the rank and file thought of was to telegraph, as soon as they read the evening papers, a message respectfully expressing their appreciation of her kindness and her loyalty to the interests of the working nurses. Another warm message of congratulation reached the office from the Marchioness of Ailsa, and there were others from Members of Parliament who are supporting the measure. Many kind letters and telegrams arrived from the Members conveying their thanks to those who are taking an active part in the movement.

MEMBERS PUT THEIR SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL.

We would offer, in a few words, an appreciation of what the nurses have done themselves. Many

have used every means which lay in their power to obtain the help of Members of Parliament, and when, owing to the present epidemic of influenza, the office staff was reduced at a very critical time not a few cheerfully gave up their off duty time to help us "to carry on." Altogether it cannot be said that, when the fortune of the ballot placed a chance in our hands, the R.B.N.A. Members sat with folded hands and allowed their leaders to bear alone the burden and heat of the day. If the confidence of the Members in their Honorary Officers and Council during the last few years of struggle and difficulty has been justified, the latter, in their turn, will be the first to acknowledge the support given to them by the nurses, often at the cost of personal sacrifice.

MAJOR BARNETT ENTERTAINS MEMBERS TO TEA  
IN THE HOUSE.

There were many expressions of pleasure among Members of the Association, present in the Lobby of the House of Commons on Thursday afternoon, in having among them a Member of our Australian Branch. Miss Coleman who, since coming to England, has worked in military hospitals in almost every one of the allied countries and was taken prisoner on one occasion, was an enthusiastic "lobbyist" on the 27th, and it gratified her fellow members very much when she formed one of a party whom Major Barnett invited to tea in the House on that afternoon. Owing to her presence in the lobby and, on the following day, in the Ladies' Gallery when the Bill was before the House for its Second Reading, the nurses feel that our Australian Branch has some share in bringing about the success which attended our Bill when it came up for its Second Reading.

THE R.B.N.A. RETURNS THANKS.

Many nurses have asked us to convey to Major Barnett their thanks for all that he has done, and for his able speech in the House of Commons, and we have to inform them that a message was forwarded to him and to Sir Samuel Scott on the evening of the 28th, and also to Mr. Adamson, leader of the Labour Party, expressing the thanks of the Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association for their most generous support of the cause they have so much at heart.

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