

was written, "love thy neighbour as thyself." For mental hygiene, as it is preached in this materialistic age, is too much bound up with considerations as to diet, fresh air, sleep and the adjustment of the hours for the activities of the different brain centres. It means far more; it means training the brain to use its centres for thought and reason and judgment just as actively and readily as it does those concerned with either memory or automatic movement.

MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

A meeting of the General Council was held on Thursday 23rd ult. The report of the Executive Committee dealt chiefly with matters relating to the Registration Bill, as did also the subsequent discussion in the Council. The Treasurer's report showed a heavy expenditure due largely to the part which the Association has taken in the effort to obtain legislation for the protection of the fully-qualified nurses.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN MILITARY HOSPITAL.

The Princess Christian Military Hospital at Englefield Green has now been closed down and the nursing staff have left it with many regrets. This splendidly equipped hospital was established early in the war by Her Royal Highness the Princess Christian, who has taken a very active and personal interest in it. When at Cumberland Lodge she sometimes visited the Hospital twice in each week and the patients were both surprised and pleased with her interest in them and her intimate knowledge of the treatment in each individual case. The Hospital was beautifully situated in a part of Windsor Great Park and looks across the woodlands to Virginia Water. The wards were bright and well-equipped, and the rooms provided for the staff, pretty, charming and restful. Three thousand four hundred patients have been treated in the Hospital and, as 2,900 of those came direct from the front, many cases were exceedingly bad ones. It speaks volumes for the efficiency of the Hospital and its staff that there have only been seventeen deaths in the whole time.

Miss Sumner, R.R.C., and a Member of the Council of the Association, has made an ideal Matron and has been very popular with the nursing staff. She has been in many lands, has touched life in many places, and takes a keen interest in many branches of modern thought apart altogether from professional affairs. Perhaps this versatility accounts to some extent for her broadminded and large-hearted attitude towards nursing questions as they concern the whole profession.

TRAINED NURSES' ANNUITY FUND.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Christian has graciously consented to open the Sale of Work on behalf of the Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund on Friday 28th inst at 12 noon. Mrs. Montague Price has very kindly arranged for the sale to take

place at 67, Eaton Place, and we ask the nurses to set aside their off duty time on that afternoon in order to attend. We take this opportunity to thank all members of the R.B.N.A. who have sent gifts and subscriptions for the sale in aid of the funds of the T.N.A.F. Many beautiful pieces of work have been received, and the charges will be quite moderate so we hope that, as Christmas time is approaching, the members will try as far as possible to purchase their gifts at the Annuity Fund's sale and thus benefit many of their less fortunate fellow nurses.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Whilst welcoming communications from its Members the Corporation does not hold itself responsible for individual expressions of opinion.

To the Secretary R.B.N.A.

DEAR MADAM,—I enclose a contribution to the General Purposes Fund and when I think of all the R.B.N.A. has meant to, and done for me in the past ten years, I wish I could afford to make it too. It is now over ten years since I landed in London from Australia—a colonial member of the R.B.N.A. with no other friend than the Association and you were the newly elected Secretary.

I so often meet British Sisters who say they once joined the R.B.N.A. and paid a guinea—no, a 5s. subscription—for the privileges and protection of working under a Royal Charter, but since then they have been too busy or careless to keep up their membership, or for politic reasons have joined other Associations. It surprises them not a little to learn that in democratic Australia and New Zealand, where the nurses have some voice in the economic management of their own affairs, the power for the good of the workers which exists in the Royal Charter was recognised 15 to 20 years ago as being a protection equal to, or surpassing that of a professional trades union, and this led to some of our leading schools taking steps to affiliate us to the Royal Corporation in England.

Since reading of the brave stand taken by the R.B.N.A. and the many Associations affiliated to it in the Central Committee's Bill for State Registration, the Colonial branches will be prouder than ever of their relationship to the parent Association. It has been truly said that "there is no one so democratic as the real aristocrat," and it is the instinctive knowledge of this in the Briton at home and abroad which makes him throw up his hat and say, "Long live the King!" And so say we who are members of the R.B.N.A., "Long live the R.B.N.A.!" royal indeed in its policy of "Noblesse oblige" towards the working nurse.

Might without right sometimes appears to triumph, but just as it is "the little leaven which leaveneth the lump," so in the end will right prevail, as exemplified in the recent war between Germany and the Allies.

Yours gratefully, M. R.

D.N., A.R.San.I., late Sister Q.A.I.M.N.S.R.
October, 1919.

(Signed) ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

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