

THE RECEPTION.

The guests who were invited to join the members of the National Union of Trained Nurses at the conclusion of their business meeting shared with them a very delightful function.

After tea had been enjoyed in the pleasant offices, bright with wild hyacinths and other spring flowers, everyone adjourned to the lecture hall upstairs, when Miss Helen L. Pearse, the newly elected President occupied the chair.

The first business in hand was a presentation to Miss Eden, and Miss Pearse read letters from Miss M. Heather-Bigg, R.R.C., the outgoing President, and from Bristol, speaking in the warmest terms of Miss Eden's work.

Miss Pearse also spoke of the great services which Miss Eden had rendered to the nursing profession, and of her high ideals, which were an inspiration to all associated with her. During the days when the Nurses' Registration Bill was before Parliament last year, she had been able to voice the nurses' views in the public press when it was possible to gain admission for letters on this subject.

It was a very great pleasure that her first official act as their President was to ask Miss Eden's acceptance of a cheque for £57 as a token of their appreciation.

Miss Eden said that she could not find words in which to say thank you, but her heart was one big "thank you" for their kindness. She thought the donors knew to what she would devote their gift, and that the thing she wanted most in the world was cottages in the country, with perhaps a small annuity attached, for old and lonely nurses. She took the opportunity of thanking the Committee for their unfailing friendship, also those outside the Union for many kindnesses, and countless people who had thanked her quite unconsciously with a kind word, a smile, or a nod at the right time.

She was sure also that they all wanted to thank some of those present who had fought for what at times seemed lost causes, but which finally triumphed because they were founded on principles which were everlasting.

An illuminated address, which embodied the thanks of the Union to Miss E. M. Platt for all her skill in designing posters, as well as her latest work, the delicately beautiful banner of the Union, was circulated in the room and much admired.

Miss S. M. Marsters then handed to Miss Rimmer a handbag containing a cheque for £23, which the donors hoped she would devote to her personal

use. She referred to the way in which Miss Rimmer had stepped into the breach as their Organising Secretary in troublous times and to her work in the Lobby of the House of Commons for the Nurses' Registration Bill.

Miss Rimmer, in warmly acknowledging the gift, emphasised how much she had gained by contact with the members of the Union.

The President then said that as Mrs. Bedford Fenwick had honoured them with her presence, perhaps she would say a few words, and Mrs. Fenwick, in responding, testified to the invaluable help she had received from Miss Eden in drafting documents, and also to Miss Rimmer's excellent work in the Lobby.

Referring to the Nurses' Registration Acts Mrs. Fenwick said that they gave the free field and no favour to the whole nursing profession for which the Central Committee and the societies affiliated to it had always contended.

The proceedings concluded with a few words from Miss Dowbiggin on a note of hope and unbounded enthusiasm.

The Mayoress of Grimsby, Miss Hobbs, presented Medals to the following probationers at the Infirmary, Scartho Road, on April 28th: Nurses Hewitt, Williams and Robinson (who received respectively the "Jeffs" gold, silver and bronze medals), and Nurses Horgan, Gibbons and Springham (who got respectively fourth, fifth and sixth prizes, presented by Canon Quirk, Ald. Fletcher and Coun. Barrett).



MISS HELEN L. PEARSE,
President, National Union of Trained Nurses.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL.

The first meeting of the General Nursing Council will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 11th inst., at the Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.

The Ministry of Health states that in the announcement made on April 21st of the appointment to the General Nursing Council, the name of Miss M. J. Tuke, of Bedford College, appointed by the Board of Education, was in error given as Miss Batty Tuke. In our synopsis of "Who's Who" on the General Nursing Council," we last week made the correction.

Miss Constance Worsley informs us that she was appointed Matron of the Infirmary for Children, Liverpool, in 1907, not in 1917, as reported in our last issue, so that she has held this responsible position for thirteen years, and comes to the aid of the General Nursing Council with ripe experience in the training of nurses for sick children.

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