May 22, 1920

# Royal British Rurses' Association.

(Incorporated by

Royal Charter.)

# THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION

### **RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY**

#### WITH HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRESIDENT, AND MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY, ON THE DEATH OF THE CROWN PRINCESS OF SWEDEN.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee a Resolution was passed conveying on behalf of all Members of the Corporation, an expression of sympathy with Her Royal Highness the President and with Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Connaught and the Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught on the death of the Crown Princess of Sweden. The Hon. Secretaries have given effect to the Resolution as instructed by the Committee.

## **PRESENTATION.**

After the Lecture on Saturday, 29th inst., at 10, Orchard Street, a Presentation will be made to Miss Margaret Breay, from the Nurses' Societies, represented on the Central Committee, and from a few of her friends in the State Registration movement who have expressed a wish to contribute individually.

As there is little time at our disposal to send out any individual invitations for the 29th, we are availing ourselves of the hospitality of the columns of the R.B.N.A. Supplement to invite any friends who can to be present.

Nurses owe an immense debt of gratitude to Miss Breay for her single-hearted and most unostentatious work in the cause of State Registration. She has rendered valuable help as a delegate of the Society for State Registration of Nurses on the Central Committee ; but, in addition to this, from the time when that Committee was constituted, she has done all the work of transcribing and reporting at its meetings and thereby has saved the nurses an immense expenditure of money in connection with their hard-won victory. They feel that they do not wish that victory to pass without giving Miss Breay some token of the goodwill of her colleagues grouped in the constituent societies of the Central Committee.

Miss Breay has held the position of Hon. Assistant Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF

NURSING for twenty-four years, and has worked to keep a voice in the Press for her fellow-nurses with the most absolute devotion.

## "THE ONLY TUNE HE KNEW."

Our telephone awoke one morning and we listened with amused, though sympathetic, attention to one of our Members (a private nurse and an enthusiastic Registrationist) as the wires of the telephone vibrated indignation. It appeared that she had congratulated one of her fellow nurses on the passage of the Registration Bill and the subsequent appointment of the General Nursing Council of the Profession, and had received the reply, "Well, what is it going to do for me?" The old cry indicative of an outlook that has hindered and handicapped the nurses for years! Each time the curtain rises on some new phase of nursing organisation the same old refrain ! Although acceding now to our fellow member's request to find-or rather we should like to say to seek-inspiration for an article in the words above quoted, we pointed out to her that so far as the B.J.N. readers are concerned, those who say "How much can we do with the Act to help ourselves?" are in the majority. Nevertheless, we promised that the article she suggested should appear, for we agree that the habit of turning everything inwards is, on all possible occasions, to be deprecated.

If a typewriter or a sewing machine had been presented to the offender, in the incident narrated, she would not have pushed it aside with her usual remark. She would have recognised much which she could do with it, and would immediately have set to work to learn how to. The Registration Act offers far greater possibilities to the nurse than any machine ever invented, and it will well repay each one of us to understand the powers it gives, and to use it to the fullest extent, in order to attract to the profession women of culture and high aspirations.

Every Member of the First General Nursing Council has taken his or her seat with the single intention of laying well and truly the foundations of nursing education and nursing organisation, but, if all the hopes of the promoters of the Regis-



