

LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

The Summer General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses was held in the Clinical Theatre of the Hospital, on Saturday, July 3rd. Miss Helen Todd, who presided, was re-elected for another term of office as President. Mrs. Lancelot Andrews was appointed a Vice-President, and Miss Mabel Sleigh, Treasurer, in succession to Mrs. Turnbull, who, to the regret of the members asked to be relieved of the work.

Mrs. Turnbull presented a financial report showing a balance in hand of 77 15s. 4d., but said that this had been possible because only one number of *League News* had been issued. It was proposed to take a postal ballot of the members, as to whether the subscription should be increased to 5s., and two numbers of the *League News* be issued annually, or whether it should remain at 3s. 6d. with one annual issue of *League News*.

The General Secretary, Miss H. T. Baines, presented an encouraging report showing that 47 new members had been elected, and that the members now numbered 1,055.

Mrs. Matthews presented the report of the Benevolent Fund, showing a balance in hand of £32 14s. 1d., and in War-saving bonds of £100, and Miss Ethelle Campbell discussed the question of putting the Fund on a more solid foundation. There had not, so far, she said, been many calls upon it—ten in nineteen years—and no applicant had ever been refused assistance. The question was referred to the Executive to present a detailed scheme at the next meeting.

Lady Baddeley, Miss Kennedy (Sister Mary), Miss Maw, and Miss M. Riddell, R.R.C., were elected members of the Executive Committee, in place of the retiring members.

The President then presented to Miss Beatrice Cutler, who for six years acted as General Secretary of the League, a beautiful little ornament of opals and tourmalines mounted in gold, and a cheque for £35, and Miss Cutler, in warmly acknowledging the gifts, said that her interest in the League would always be deep and unabated.

Miss Cutler then gave a very interesting account of a recent visit to Belgium, showing how splendidly the Belgian people were working in the restoration of their country. The members then adjourned to the Great Hall for tea, where they had the pleasure of meeting some of the members of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, and Miss Huxley of the Irish Nursing Council. The tables were beautifully decorated with flowers, given by Miss Hurlston and her friends, and brought by her from the country; and the music arranged by Sister Hope (Miss Maymam) and provided by members of the nursing staff, was greatly appreciated. Miss Firth presided at the piano, and Miss Holme delighted everyone with her lovely voice.

Everyone was very pleased to see the President greatly improved in health, and to welcome her back to her official duties.

THE NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE. "OUR CAMP."

Sandsend, on the Yorkshire coast, a little place north of Whitby—just a name on the map to most nurses, but to all who were lucky enough to spend a fortnight there in June in the Nurses' Missionary League "Camp," it just stands for the most glorious holiday.

Our tent (not of canvas, but stone) was pitched three minutes from the sea, just beside the woods, with the cliffs on either side. With our own tent on the shore for use when bathing, and with perfect weather, one can imagine the result.

We did sleep indoors, and had some of our meals there, and it was home, and we were a jolly family together; but the woods, the cliffs and the shore were the places that saw us most. Sometimes going further afield, we think of the day at Whitby, Kettlewell and Runswick Bay, and for some the row back in the evening. What walks! What freedom to do just as one liked! What renewed friendships from our training school days, and new ones formed.

What a meeting-place it was—Matron, Sister and Pro., private and district nurses, health visitors and those returned from the mission fields of Jerusalem, Africa, India and China. What talks we had of the nursing out-look all over the world! The problems at home and the nursing associations of India and China!

One realised what a unit of a tremendous whole one is, and rejoiced that our nursing ideals are being carried so far, when we heard of the coloured nurses, male and female, who are taking their public nursing examination after a three years' training, and the midwifery examination for girls and the positions of responsibility they have been able to take up after this. We heard the other side—of the hospitals that had to be closed for lack of nurses, the doctors who had to do their work unaided by any British nurses, and the cases who could get no other nursing than that of their own relatives.

As we heard of the world's need, both at home and abroad, our longing was that we might be sent "not where we were needed, but where we were needed most."

The time seemed all too short; days seemed to fly, as they always do when one is enjoying life to the full, and one wished that every nurse might enjoy this glorious holiday with us.

Yes, we were a jolly family together, and were able to realise the bond of union of our profession better without the restraints of hospital etiquette, and before we parted realised the meaning of our family connection in a more real way. Heaven seemed very near as we saw it reflected in the beauties all around, and there were those talks on higher things, Prayer, Discipleship, Vocation, which made us realise more of our responsibility to God and to our fellow-man, and we gave Him thanks for leading us into a closer communion with Him and with one another in that never-to-be-forgotten holiday.

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