opening day. The dining room, where tea was served that day, looked very attractive with daintily arranged tea tables, set with rosebud crockery, the coloured and shaded lights throwing a soft, rosy hue over the guests as they discussed the good things provided.

At five o'clock the Archdeacon of London dedicated the Lounge to the Glory of God and for the use of the members. He further expressed his delight that the Club had proved so successful, for he had always prophesied that it would be a dead failure, and next to being right he loved being wrong.

The Countess of Selborne then declared the Lounge open, and said what a boon it was to nurses in their off duty time who had no home in London.

The Lounge is a very attractive place. The furniture is tastefully upholstered in royal blue linen, and the settles, in the cosiest of cosy corners, are covered with a soft, brown corduroy velvet. The curtains, of the same material, are lined with blue. They were a birthday gift to the Club.

The greatest number present on any one day was reached last Sunday, when over seventy visitors enjoyed the beautiful music provided by Mrs. Buckingham and Mr. E. T. Cook and two of his boy pupils. On this occasion an address was given by Miss Sybil Thesiger on the "Adventure of the Future."

Interesting details connected with the Club were given by the Secretary at the "Members' Meeting" held during the week. Evidence of the growth of the Club was supplied by some of the figures quoted, e.g., during the eleven months of this year 8,661 beds have been made up and 19,584 meals served.

The very successful Nurses' Bazaar, held at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, on December 3rd and 4th, the purpose of which was to provide additional accommodation for sixty-six nurses at Field House and to equip and furnish a Recreation Room at the Infirmary, is an object lesson in what can be achieved on the initiation of nurses. The bazaar was opened on December 3rd by Robina, Viscountess Mountgarret, when Mr. George Priestman presided. Mr. Priestman said that there was a shortage at the Infirmary of at least 500 beds, it was a case of all hands to the pump. It had been decided some months ago to add two dormitories to Field House, and it spoke volumes for the nursing staff that it had been willing, at great personal trouble and sacrifice, to organise that bazaar.

Viscountess Mountgarret expressed her pleasure in urging the provision of proper accommodation for nursing staffs. She had had a great deal to do with nurses and hospitals during the war, and could state that in many of our largest hospitals the accommodation for the nursing staffs was simply outrageous.

The very attractive Handbook showed that the Chairman of the Bazaar Committee was Miss J. W. Davies, the Matron, and it was composed of four representatives of the Ladies' Committee, four of the Nurses' League, and four of the Nursing Staff. Over £600 was taken in the two days, a result on which everyone concerned is greatly to be congratulated.

Speaking at a Special Court of Governors of the London Hospital last week, Lord Knutsford said "that the considerable increases made in the salaries of the nursing staff were not only perfectly just, since nurses had been underpaid in the past, but were necessary on the grounds Poor Law infirmaries were of expediency. offering better salaries than they had been offering at the London Hospital. The increases involved an additional expenditure of £10,000 per annum, which total would increase with the annual increments of the individuals, but whatever happened they must do justice to the people on whom the whole work of the hospital depended."

Lord Knutsford says the B. J. N. never agrees with him. This time we are entirely at one.

Manchester is to have more nurses—a need which is to be met in a very thorough manner. The scheme, which is already well advanced, is on such a scale that patients in any district of the city will be able to receive prompt attention. The Manchester and Salford District Nursing Association, greatly enlarged, will supply the staff. The object is to provide nurses for the Public Health Office and to meet any calls from the Insurance Committee and from approved societies in respect of insured persons. It is proposed that grants shall be made by the Public Health Committee, the Insurance Committee, and the approved societies for maintaining the additional staff. Already the first body has approved a grant of £500 for this purpose, and the Insurance Committee has allocated £1,000 to the scheme.

We regret that we are unable to award a prize in connection with our prize competition this week, no paper of sufficient merit having been received. previous page next page