

## ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION. GUY'S HOSPITAL PAST AND PRESENT NURSES' LEAGUE.

The members of the Royal British Nurses' Association and their friends are naturally excited with pleasurable anticipation of the great day—May 18th—when their beautiful new Headquarters and Nurses' Club are to be opened by the President, Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, accompanied by Her Highness Princess Marie Louise, as they realise with pride that for the first time the Royal Chartered Corporation of Nurses will be adequately housed, and thus enabled to meet its obligations to the nursing profession in a suitable environment. Naturally the official staff want the house to look its very best, and any amount of plants, ferns and cut flowers can be disposed of in the spacious rooms. These gifts should be taken or sent to Miss Cutler, Home Sister, at 194, Queen's Gate, S.W., who will arrange for their display to the best possible advantage. After the opening ceremony, tea will be provided by ticket in the dining room. Miss Isabel Macdonald, Secretary of the R.B.N.A., has arranged for "open house" on May 19th and 20th, when visitors will be conducted over the Club between the hours of 11 to 1 and 2 to 4, and shown its beautiful arrangements.

Although not yet officially open, quite a number of nurses have been in residence at 194, Queen's Gate, including two contingents of army nurses who arrived late in the day under the impression that the Club was still being carried on as a War Hostel for Nurses.

Many compliments have been paid to Miss Cutler's management, and special satisfaction is expressed with the excellent meals provided. The domestic staff, including a first class cook, is now complete. Already non-resident members have begun to find their way to the Club, to write perhaps a few letters or, it may be to drink a cup of tea, while others drop in for a cosy evening round the Lounge fire.

Nurses to whom we have spoken appear to be under the impression that the Club is only available for members of the R.B.N.A. This is not so. The President, in her recent letter—which appeared in the official Supplement of the Association—made it quite clear that all trained nurses, if well recommended, are to be welcomed as members of the Club. The terms naturally provide certain privileges as to cost for members of the R.B.N.A. This is only just, as it is by their past financial aid that the Club has materialised—and no nurses have been more generous in their support of their Association than members of the R.B.N.A.

The thirteenth Annual Dinner and the twenty-first Annual Meeting of the Guy's Hospital Nurses' League was held in the Nurses' Home on Friday, April 29th. The guests were welcomed by Miss Margaret Hogg, C.B.E., R.R.C., Matron of the Hospital, and Hon. Secretary of the League.

Dinner, which is always a very pleasant function, was served punctually at 7 o'clock, Miss Hogg and the Sisters presiding over the tables in the charming dining hall. They were decorated with bright spring flowers, and the dainty menus were the work of members of the nursing staff.

After dinner everyone foregathered in the vestibule, and it was quite marvellous how quickly the large number present were served with delicious coffee, piping hot, as coffee should be. Sister Grace, the Home Sister, and those working under her are greatly to be congratulated on the smoothness and efficiency of the service.

The Annual Meeting was held in the Nurses' Sitting Room, and Miss Hogg opened the proceedings by expressing her great pleasure in seeing so many old friends. The occasion was a special one, as it was the coming of age of the League. She traced its development from 1894, when the nurses were allowed to use the students' tennis courts three times a week, the organisation of the Choral Society in 1895, the Cycling Club in 1896, the Nurses' Library, which owed its existence to Miss Tippetts, in 1898; in 1899 the scheme for acquiring the Cottage at Honor Oak Park was considered, and in 1900 the League was formed and the Cottage bought for £4,050. The interest payable on the loan raised by the League then amounted to £105 annually, but the debt was now reduced to £900.

Miss Hogg then presented the Report of the year's work.

### REPORT OF THE YEAR'S WORK.

(Abridged.)

Between 80 and 90 Present Members have been transferred to the Past Section during the year.

Three hundred and sixty-four week-ends and days off have been spent at the Cottage during the year, and 1,586 short visits for tea have been paid.

One thousand and eighteen volumes have been taken out of the Nurses' Library during the year. Sister Mary and Nurse Peacock have been most energetic in writing to numerous friends who have left the Hospital, asking for help in replenishing the Library, with the result that about 170 volumes have been added to the Library, and about 40 small books sent down to the Cottage.

Mrs. C. H. Fagge, a former Hon. Treasurer of the Nurses' League, has very kindly presented the Nurses' Tennis Club with a silver Challenge Cup, to be competed for each year by the Nursing Staff. If the Cup is won for three years in succession by the same competitor, she will receive a silver miniature replica of the Cup.

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