

Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation will be held on Thursday, June 28th, at 3 p.m., and Mrs. Campbell Thomson has asked us to convey from her to the Members an invitation to take tea with her after the Meeting at 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.

LECTURE.

SOCIAL HYGIENE FOR WOMEN.

Under the auspices of the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease, Dr. Sloan Chesser lectured at 194, Queen's Gate on Saturday, 12th May, and we saw the wonderful film, of which several of our Nurse-Lecturers have spoken to us before, entitled "Social Hygiene for Women." From this we learnt in a very striking way of the terrible ravages of venereal disease, and the difficulties to be met by those who give much unselfish labour towards combating its spread. Dr. Sloan Chesser said that about one out of every twelve persons suffered from the disease in one form or another, and 800,000 new cases were reported every year. It was not always caused by sexual intercourse; she had known of perfectly innocent people becoming infected from canteen cups; she knew of one case in which a baby born with the disease had infected its grandmother, and another in which the wet nurse of an infected child contracted the disease. There is no part of the human body which is not liable to attack, and young people should be taught a great deal more about venereal disease and how to avoid it than is at present the case. Proper instruction on sex hygiene should be given to children, and they should commence at the age of four or five to know something about the organs of reproduction. Children would ask questions about these matters, and there should be neither refusal to answer their inquiries nor any evasion of these. Too often this was the rule, and the child was led to believe that there must be something wicked and interesting in these things and his curiosity was whetted, with the result that he only thought the more of them, and thereby a sex complex was formed of which the results in later years were apt to be serious. Children could be taught sex hygiene in a perfectly simple way, which need cause embarrassment neither to child nor teacher, by telling them something of reproduction in bird life, and

then of the really very simple differences between this and reproduction in mammals.

Dr. Sloan Chesser, with the aid of a film, showed the rapid multiplication of germs which give rise to venereal disease, and the progress of the disease when it has attacked different parts of the body. Previous to commencing her special lecture the doctor showed a film of the female organs of reproduction, from the time when the ovum passed into the fallopian tubes until the fully formed child was about to leave the uterus.

Mrs. Earp, who occupied the Chair, thanked Dr. Chesser for her interesting lecture, and said that, when she was going up and down the country lecturing on hygiene and kindred subjects, she found herself continually quoting Dr. Sloan Chesser; from her writings and speeches she (Mrs. Earp) had gained a very great deal of information which had been of the greatest value to her in her work.

MISS CATTELL "AT HOME."

Miss Cattell is to be "At Home" at the R.B.N.A. Club on Thursday, June 7th, from 3 to 6 p.m., and has asked us to intimate to those of her friends who are readers of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING that she will be delighted to see them at 194, Queen's Gate, on that day.

CONCERT.

On Wednesday, June 20th, we are to have a delightful concert, when Miss Phyllis Lett and Miss Jane Croft will sing. The concert will commence at 3 p.m. at 194, Queen's Gate. The funds arising from it will be used towards forming an Endowment Fund for the Club, and we hope that Members will join wholeheartedly with us in the effort to make the afternoon a great success. One Member of the Association has generously promised to give £100 towards the Endowment Fund if her fellow-Members of the Association will collect £400, so that we hope our London Members especially will respond to this offer by giving us every assistance possible in connection with the concert. Dr. Frederick Morison has most kindly made the arrangements for the concert, and, in the course of a few days, we expect to hear from him the names of the other artists who will take part, in addition to the famous singers already mentioned.

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