

Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

LETTER FROM THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN.

We have received the following letter from the Lord Chamberlain:—

St. James's Palace.

I have received the King's Commands to thank the Royal British Association of Nurses on His Majesty's behalf, as well as on behalf of His Majesty's Sisters, for the beautiful flowers so kindly sent as a tribute of affection and respect to the memory of Her late Majesty Queen Alexandra, by which the King is deeply touched.

December, 1925.

CROMER,
Lord Chamberlain.

CHRISTMAS AT THE ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Christmas at the R.B.N.A. was unusually merry this year, and a company numbering about 40 sat round the horse-shoe table to partake of the good cheer which the Club had to offer. The Banner floated cheerfully at the top of the room, the place it assumes on occasions of state, and the table was decorated with varieties of chrysanthemums and white holly. There was plenty of merriment, and not much of that frugality, credited to the Secretary by gentle insinuation, that putting out the lights for the entry of the pudding was really a ruse to accomplish economy.

After dinner the usual toasts were honoured—The King, Her Royal Highness the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, and the other Founder Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association, "the new generation of Members," "Overseas Members," Sir Harold and Lady Boulton, Mrs. Temple, Mr. Montague Price, the Administrative Staff, etc. The list seems long, but the speakers were, luckily, not afflicted with great verbosity. We had the gift of a noble turkey from Mr. Montague Price, and delightful wine, fruit, and other good things from Mrs. John Temple. The Club looked exceedingly gay under its wealth of evergreens so kindly sent by Lady Leith of Fyvie, Lady Hambleton, and Miss Isobel Hutton.

Upstairs, after dinner, we dismantled the Christmas tree and, while some elected to talk round the front drawing-room fire, others had a lively evening's dancing in the back part of the room. The merriment found its climax in an eightsome reel, which suffered much owing to participation in it by the English. Their vagaries, however, evoked as much merry laughter from the Scotch as the "features" of the reel, by the Scotch dancers, did from the English section of the onlookers.

BENEVOLENT SCHEMES.

At this Christmas season we would tender our thanks to all those Members of the Association and other readers of the

JOURNAL who have helped our Benevolent Schemes throughout the year. Their kindness and generosity in connection with these schemes has resulted in much comfort and relief for their less fortunate colleagues, and we have had very many letters expressing gratitude for this.

We should like to take this opportunity of saying that offers of another kind of help for these Funds would be most gratefully received. It is to be remembered that no expenses for office salaries are incurred by the Benevolent Funds, and yet the work involved is certainly as great as that in any other branch of the Association's activities; frequently it is with the very greatest difficulty that we accomplish all that we wish to in our plans for adding to the usefulness of our most valuable Benevolent Schemes. The book-keeping, correspondence, and statistics must of necessity be carried out by one set of people in order to secure the accuracy which continuity gives. But there is a great deal of work such as card indexing, &c., in connection with which we should be most thankful for voluntary clerical assistance. If every Member resident in London would give up a few hours in the year we should be able to add to the benefits we are already giving. If members will write to the office stating whether they will give a little help in this way we will compile a list of those who are willing to, and arrange to have work ready on dates and hours convenient to them.

There is another branch of benevolent work for which we find there is a great need, that of visiting sick or aged nurses who may or may not be on our benevolent panel. Hitherto we have merely asked certain individuals to do this as occasion arose: it would be of the greatest help if we could have the names of Members who would undertake to give at least one visit to a sick or aged fellow Member during the year. Will those who can arrange to do this kindly let us know? We have sick Members scattered throughout the Provinces also, and shall be glad to hear from any country Members who would take on work in other districts than London.

We are also making an effort to revive the Recluse Club which was instituted before the War and which for various reasons we were compelled to drop. The purpose of this Club is to keep the retired nurses supplied with picture papers and other periodicals. A considerable number of Members formerly sent us 1s. a year towards the postage while others sent us each week some periodical to be forwarded. Will they and others help us again?

TO THE MEMBERS.

The administrative staff at the office wish to thank the many Members of the Association who have sent them greetings and Christmas cards. It has been impossible to acknowledge them all, and we hope that the Members will take this notice as our cordial acknowledgment of their kind greetings.

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