

# Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on June 23rd at 194, Queen's Gate; Mrs. Bedford Fenwick occupied the Chair.

The Report of the Executive Committee dealt with the various activities of the Association throughout the year, all of which had been reported at length in our Official Organ, so that there is no need to recapitulate details regarding them now.

After the Report had been received Miss Lord stated that she would like to emphasise especially the advantages which she felt the Club offered to Members of the Association. She had stayed there many times and had been struck by the happy atmosphere, by the good feeling and friendship between the Members who came into residence and, particularly, by the warm welcome which they extended to nurses from other countries, many of whom had spoken to her with the greatest appreciation of this.

Rather a sad note was struck by the reference to an unusual number of deaths during the year, among Members of the Association who, in times past, had taken a very active part in its work.

The Statement of Accounts for 1926 showed an excess of income over expenditure of £101 4s. 4d. on the General Fund, while in the case of the Settlement Fund the excess of income over expenditure was £31 1s. 10d. The accounts of the Helena Benevolent Fund were less satisfactory, as these had a deficit of £13 8s. 9d. on the year's working; the Hon. Treasurer urged the Members to do what they could to make good this deficit in order that needed help might be forthcoming for Members of the Corporation who were suffering from illness or other misfortune.

In seconding the Financial Report Miss Cutler said that she could understand, perhaps better than most, the actual position regarding these accounts and she would congratulate the Hon. Treasurer and the Executive Committee warmly on the way in which the various items balanced one another. She had taken part for six months in the inauguration of the Club as Hon. Home Sister, and she could assure the Members that it was no easy matter to so adjust the income and expenditure as to make sure that the balance at the close of the year would be on the right side. She considered that the Members had every reason to be satisfied that the accounts showed a profit instead of a deficit.

Miss Breay thought that everyone would agree that the Committee had administered the finances of the Corporation with all due economy.

With reference to the Reports the Chairman said that she would like to emphasise what Miss Cutler had said. It was no small matter to run an establishment of the size of the present Headquarters and Club of the Association, and she would like to express the strongest appreciation of the independence and generosity of the Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association. To her the fact that

nearly £200 had been subscribed by the nurses to keep their home beautiful was a very wonderful point in the Report. It was indeed very encouraging to find that the nurses would subscribe such a sum to supply their Club with fine carpets, beautiful china, plants, and the like. On looking round the room that afternoon she felt that those present, who, like herself, were susceptible to their surroundings, could not fail to appreciate the results of their generosity, and again she thanked the Members for the independent spirit displayed by them in these various statements of accounts.

The Result of the postal ballot was declared, and on this the following were elected to fill vacancies occurring on the Council under Bye-law XVII:—

*Medical Men.*—Sir James Berry, Mr. Carson, Dr. Disney Cran, Dr. King-Brown, Dr. Laing, Dr. Morgan, Dr. Rice-Oxley, Dr. Maxwell Simpson, Dr. White, Dr. Whittick.

*Matrons.*—Miss Charteris, Miss Child, Miss Cowie, Miss Cutler, Miss Gooding, Miss Holmes, Miss Hulme, Miss Todd, Miss Villiers, Miss Yule.

*Sisters and Nurses.*—Miss Bellamy, Miss Blacklock, Miss Cattell, Miss Davy, Miss Denham, Miss Kent, Mrs. Lambert, Miss Le Geyt, Miss Ryan, Mrs. Temple.

A vote of thanks to the Hon. Officers was proposed by Miss Lord, seconded by Miss Bramwell and carried.

At the close of the Meeting Miss Cattell proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick for presiding.

A social gathering of the Members followed the formal Meeting, when the home-made dainties, prepared under Miss Dickie's supervision, were greatly enjoyed.

## MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The next Meeting of the General Council will take place on Friday, July 8th, at 5 p.m., when the Council will elect its Hon. Officers and Executive Committee for the next twelve months. This will be the last Ordinary Meeting of the Council before October.

## A POSITION OF MENDICANCY.

At its last meeting the Executive Committee received a letter from a Member of the Association expressing great indignation that the nurses are once more to be dragged before the British Public *in forma pauperis* when an appeal for charity for them is broadcast during the forthcoming month. The communication expressed the hope that the Association would take some strong action in the matter, and a letter was accordingly forwarded to the British Broadcasting Corporation expressing the views of the Executive Committee on the subject. The reply of the former was to the effect that the Nurses' Fund for Nurses (a misnomer this, surely) appeared to them a "good cause" (the quotation marks are theirs) and, provided that the Association had nothing to urge against the bona fides of the Fund, the appeal would be allowed to go forward. This reply was just what we had anticipated, but Members

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