from this Fund, and the Committee have to rely on the members' support and help for such an entertainment as this which is held with a view to enlarging our opportunities for helping our fellow members who are sick. For tickets please apply to the Secretary and tell your friends about it. To the Dance we need not refer, for the nurses and their "partners" have "discovered" these dances for themselves.

DONATIONS.

House Beautiful Fund.—Miss Bertha Nurse, £2; Miss A. Jordan, £1 ros.; Mrs. Brameld, £1; Miss M. K. Coleman. 3 dollars; Miss Siddons, 13s.; Misses Gooding, Hulme, Kinsey, Shaw, 10s.; Mrs. Andrews, Miss Pearse, 8s. 6d.; Mrs. Strong, Mrs. Maxwell St. John, Misses Bell, Bryson, E. Clark, Coomber, Greaves, Hinton, Carson Rae, Vergette, Pelham-Williams, 5s.; Miss Macleod Orr, 4s.; Miss McCrea, 3s.; Mrs. Holdsworth, Misses Barber, Bath, Bell, Orwin, 2s. 6d.; Misses Cheetham, Garstang, A. King, Willman, 2s.; Miss Bryson, 1s. 6d.; Mrs. Ta-Bois, Misses Archer, Phillips, 1s.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

The Executive Committee will shortly be arranging for nominations for the forthcoming Election of the General Council, and Members who wish to nominate Members of the Association, for election to the Council, should send up the names of these to the Secretary before the close of the current month.

ISABEL MACDONALD,

Secretary to the Corporation.

CANADA HOUSE.

In connection with our reference to Canada House last month, the Home of the Dominion in London, our valued correspondent sends the following additional information:

The great block of buildings as a whole was designed by Sir Robert Smirke. Canada House adjoins the Royal College of Physicians which has occupied this site for many years, and until the Dominion took it over the Union Club was domiciled in the adjoining portion

Club was domiciled in the adjoining portion.
Since it was acquired by the Dominion it has been very considerably added to and beautified in many respects. The fine entrance in Cockspur Street, with its four great pillars and beautiful bronze door, adds greatly to the general stateliness of the building. The door, by the way, was made by the famous Bromsgrove Guild and is beautifully designed, with its large maple leaf medallions in the central panels. The great Entrance Hall, with its magnificent pillars of scagliola, gives an impression of grandeur and space, very consistent with its imperial associations. On one side, as you enter from the street, is a writing room and, on the other, a reading room supplied with all the Canadian papers. At the enquiry desk one has one's first experience of the painstaking readiness to give information and help which must mean so much to those, especially, who come to seek such help and information of its Emigration Department, one section of which, on the ground floor, offers ready opportunity to enquirers. On this floor also is the office of the Overseas Department of the Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment and Pensions—an official position of considerable dignity and importance. The hall ends in four great pillars which screen a huge apartment occupied, on ordinary occasions, by an army of clerks but which is also used for public receptions. We are told that this room lends itself to such occasions admirably and we can well believe that it looks like a veritable fairyland, when the florists have completed their work of preparation in it. The main staircase is regarded by architects and artists as being of a very

rare and beautiful design and particularly effective is its harmony when one looks down upon it from above. We specially admired the lovely electric light brackets of old French design with their shades of a delicate petunia; they made a most effective *motif* against the plaster panels of neo-Grec design.

On the first floor we visited the room of the High Commissioner, the Hon. Peter C. Larkin, who will stand out among Canada's line of High Commissioners as a man of rare perception in connection with the dignity and qualities claimed of one in high office, of the true statesmanship and fine knowledge of true economy which make for a sound administration. Going over the building, under the guidance of his Assistant Secretary, we sensed something of the extent to which the personality of this great High Commissioner flows into every department of the building, of which he is the official head. In his room are some fine old oil paintings and exquisite pieces of old furniture. We admired the writing-table—a real gem—with its clustered columns of mahogany supported on lion paws at the corners. Its banding and framing are of mahogany and this gives a feeling of strength to the general scheme of beautifully figured satinwood. The vases, set in the oval panels, are of mahogany while their sprays and other details are of a lighter wood but space prevents us from giving a very detailed description of this perfectly exquisite old treasure. In character with it is the bookcase of satinwood, framed with a narrow band of mahogany which occurs wherever any line of demarcation is wanted; for such a large piece of furniture there is a singular lightness of touch throughout the whole workmanship of the bookcase. Both pieces of furniture belong to the latter period of the 18th century.

Between each of the windows, and surmounted by mirrors, are old tables in which frames of gilt, and Sheraton in type, support finely inlaid satinwood tops. There is a great Georgian crystal chandelier which gives a gorgeous effect when lit up. The modern chairs round the large central table are after Chippendale and were made in Canada. The beautiful carpets in this and other parts of the building were made in Toronto, and most of the doors are of beautiful Spanish mahogany.

In one large apartment we admired an enormous bookcase copied from one of antique design, and a fine grandfather clock which regulates the whole of the clocks throughout the building. The Emigration Department is a hive of busy workers under the direction of Mr. Bruce Walker and Colonel O'Kelly. We looked into the Public Health Department which is chiefly engaged in examining emigrants, and then we climbed the six storied new section of the building where we came upon a glass roofed passage tastefully arranged as a kind of conservatory, opening on to a roof garden which must be beautiful in summer time. As we left the building we saw the fine room occupied by the Secretary, Mr. Lucien Pacand, and that adjoining, where his own and the Assistant Secretary's private Secretaries are at work.

The main departments in Canada House are the Emigration Department, the Trade Commission and the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment and Pensions, and a tremendous activity must be daily in progress in connection with each, to judge from the number of offices, dictators of correspondence, accountants, typists and the like. The size and lightness of the rooms present ideal conditions for carrying on great imperial activities.

Altogether we left the building with a renewed sense of the dignity of the great Dominion beyond the seas, with an extraordinary impression of what one administration can achieve in maintaining and carrying to a state of perfection in material things, in courtesy and kindliness some interpretation of the grandeur and dignity of the particular country which it represents in the Empire's capital.

previous page next page