

### THE LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

The President, Miss Helen Dey, R.R.C., presided at the meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, London, in the Medical and Surgical Theatre of the Hospital, on December 8th, and moved from the chair before the proceedings commenced a vote of respectful sympathy with His Majesty the King in his serious illness.

The satisfactory announcement was made that the Isla Stewart Library would be opened in the New Year, and after tea, many of those present had the pleasure of seeing it, and though still unfurnished, an idea could be formed of the harmony of the whole when completed.

### LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

The Autumn Meeting of the Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League was held on November 13th in the Recreation Room of the Nurses' Home, Royal Infirmary, Leicester. Miss Vincent, R.R.C., President, was in the chair, and Misses Pell Smith, and Sherlock, Vice-Presidents, were also present.

After the minutes had been read and letters of apology dealt with, the President asked the Members present to stand in silence in memory of Miss Carrie Evans, a well-known and much-loved Member, formerly Sister for many years at the Royal Infirmary.

Miss Vincent then welcomed the large gathering of members and visitors, and introduced Mrs. Banton, who had kindly come to present medals and prizes to successful members of the Training School. Nurse Jessie Cooper carried off the gold medal; Nurse Dorothy Scathgood, the silver medal; and Nurse M. D. Pickering, the bronze medal; while Nurse E. E. Mason gained the senior book prize, and Nurses S. Calhoun and W. Mowson also obtained books.

After presenting the prizes, Mrs. Banton congratulated the successful Nurses, and said how highly the work of the Royal Infirmary was appreciated by the people who profited by it. It was known everywhere that Leicester Royal Infirmary bears a good name for the very skilful and sympathetic treatment given by the Medical and Nursing Staffs. She had been sent on to the Infirmary Board for the first time in 1910 as a working woman to represent working women, and had met many women who had been patients; they spoke most highly of the treatment they had received. What was said and done in the wards was talked about outside. She thought the Nurses should know this, and that the knowledge of the love and respect of their patients would encourage and help them when they were tired; they would realise that they were not working in vain, but take courage and go on giving of their best to their work.

Miss Hallows, Education Officer of the College of Nursing, then gave a very interesting account of the different schemes and arrangements for classes in special subjects for Nurses which had been instituted at different times, leading up to the examinations for diplomas in nursing instituted by the Universities of London and Leeds.

Mr. Sevestre proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Banton, who, he said, was well known in the City for the excellent work she did in any scheme for the betterment of social conditions. He hoped that the Nurses would carry on the traditions of their Training School in their work outside, thus enhancing the value of its Certificate. Mrs. Woodroffe seconded the vote.

Mr. Pichard, Chairman of the Board of Governors, proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Hallows, and said he was glad to know of the possibilities in the future for Nurses. As representing the Board, he was very proud of the Nursing Staff. The Certificate of Training of Leicester Royal Infirmary was a passport to any Hospital in the land, and it was gratifying to know that the Nurses were

anxious to obtain it. The Board had decided to present four Scholarships for training for the Examination of the Central Midwives' Board to their Nurses, and the first holders of those exhibitions would commence their new work in January. The Board was also now discussing a Scheme of Pensions for Nurses in the Hospital, and he hoped that by December 1st it would be in operation.

Mr. Astley Clarke seconded the vote, and said that he hoped that the Nurses appreciated that the four years' training was only the commencement of learning how to work. He thought that it was a great thing for the Universities to open their doors to Nurses in this way.

Both votes of thanks were carried with acclamation. Tea was served in the Nurses' sitting-room.

### GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The ninety-sixth meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held on Friday, November 23rd, at 20, Portland Place, London, W. Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., Chairman of the Council, presided.

#### Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee Bills and Claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sum of £100 for Stamps, £10 for Insurance Stamps, and £5,500 for Examiners' Claims and Expenses in connection with the October State Examinations, were allowed.

The Committee reported that £4,877 11s. 3d. India 3 per cent. Stock has been purchased at a cost of £3,000. Further that the Committee raised no objection to Recommendations 11 and 12 of the General Purposes Committee, or to Recommendation 2 of the Registration Committee.

The Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee were: "That the offices of the Council be closed for the Christmas Holidays from mid-day on Saturday, December 22nd, until Thursday morning, December 27th," and that two dozen hassocks be purchased.

#### Registration.

The Registration Committee reported that they had considered a letter from Registered Nurses in the Provinces pointing out difficulty in obtaining access to the Printed Register. They recommended "That letters calling attention to the published Register be written to the Secretaries of a certain number of Free Libraries, and that surplus copies of the 1928 issue be sent to those who apply for them." This was agreed.

The Applications for approval for Registration submitted were seven by examination from Fever Nurses, and five by reciprocity from General Nurses. These were approved, and the Registrar was instructed to enter the names in the appropriate parts of the Register.

#### Education and Examination.

On the recommendation of the Education and Examination Committee the application of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital in conjunction with Guy's Hospital, London, for recognition as a complete training school was granted, and the Isolation Hospital, Scartho, Grimsby, was recognised as a complete training school for two years.

The Committee reported that they had considered a letter from the Ministry of Health, dated July 19th, 1928, referred to the Committee by the Council on October 19th. They recommended "that Counsel's opinion be obtained on the interpretation of Section 3 (2) (b) of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919." This section is as follows:—

Rules under this Section shall contain provisions:—

"(b) Requiring that the prescribed training shall be carried out either in an institution approved by the Council

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