

one of the oldest therapeutic measures. In one case a donor gave two pints of blood and was able to play a hard game of Rugby next day, but he was an exceptionally strong man; another donor has given blood forty-four times in five years and is no worse for his generosity.

It is necessary that the Blood Transfusion Service should be organised with the greatest care, and donors are divided into four different groups according to the properties of their blood. Blood of different people cannot be mixed indiscriminately, and the patient may easily die if he is transfused with blood belonging to a person of a different blood group. Nor should it be taken for granted that the members of one family are all of the same blood group; in one case all the different groups were found in the members of one particular family. Obviously, too, the donor must be free from any disease, such as malaria, which can be communicated by the blood.

Mr. Oliver gave many instances of wonderful cures effected by transfusion, and answered several questions at the end of his lecture. We regret that we have been able to give only a short report of what several of the members regarded as one of the most interesting lectures we have ever had. The lecturer stated that a film was being prepared showing the process of blood transfusion, and he very kindly said that, should the nurses desire him to do so, he would have pleasure in showing it at headquarters later in the year.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TRAINED NURSES' ANNUITY FUND.

The Annual Meeting of the Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund was held on Friday, April 12th, 1929, at 194, Queen's Gate. Major Richard Rigg, O.B.E., J.P., occupied the chair.

The Report for 1928, which had been previously circulated, was submitted. £132 2s. more had been received in subscriptions than in 1927, and the donations were £222 7s. 10d. in advance of that year. £2,422 8s. 5d. 5 per cent. War Stock had been sold and the proceeds invested in Underground Electric Railways 1st Mortgage Debenture Stock, and in Canadian Pacific Railway 4 per cent. Preferred Stock.

A case of very great generosity was noted in the Report. One of the Annuity holders of the Fund, prior to being awarded an annuity, had commenced paying a small premium towards a Life Assurance Endowment Policy, and, soon after this, her health broke down. On being granted an annuity she decided to keep up the payments on her policy somehow, for the sole purpose of handing over the sum, to be realised later, to the Fund which had helped her in her extremity. No assurance that such action had not been expected of her nor any persuasion that the money should be laid aside for some subsequent emergency would change her purpose. "There is such a thing as kindness," she said, "but there is such a thing as justice too. The Fund has helped me ever since my health broke down and it is up to me to be just to it; that was why I kept up my payments."

In commenting on this episode the Chairman said that here was an instance indeed of the spirit of altruistic self-sacrifice which has always animated the Nursing Profession. The act of this Annuity holder (whose sole assured income was her small annuity of £28 2s. from the Fund, her sole asset a small cottage), had made of this year's Report a wonderful human document, one that was an honour to the whole Profession. He (the Chairman) considered that she had made it the most outstanding Report in the history of the Benevolent Fund.

Appreciation was expressed of the help rendered to the Fund by the Royal British Nurses' Association in placing at its disposal the services of its expert Office Staff and of

the help rendered voluntarily throughout the year by many of its Members. Reference was made also to the work of one Annuity holder who kept the whole of the card index and receipt books. In these ways a great deal of expense was saved to the Fund and consequently a much larger sum was conserved for founding annuities than if the Fund had to maintain a staff of salaried officials.

#### INVITATION.

The General Council will be "At Home" to Members of the Association on Wednesday, May 15th, from 4 to 6 p.m., and we hope that many of the Members may be able to avail themselves of this invitation.

These social gatherings are proving very popular among our Members as a means of meeting and discussing informally various questions which interest them. Miss Swaby Smith's hospitality on Thursday, April 25th, was very greatly appreciated, and we had a most enjoyable afternoon when she received her guests.

#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR LECTURE AND RAMBLERS' CLUB OUTING.

On Thursday, May 23rd, by special request, Miss Macdonald will read a paper on "Fatigue," and on Friday, May 31st, again by request of some of the Members, we are arranging a Ramble to Jordans; this will be extremely interesting, because of its associations with the Quaker Settlement there. It is to be remembered that Elizabeth Fry, who was one of the pioneers of modern nursing, was a Quaker, and we hope to find associations at Jordans interesting to the nurses on this account. In any case, it will prove a most delightful ramble, and we shall either have tea provided in the hostel there or organise a picnic in the vicinity. Those who wish to go should notify the Secretary, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, a week beforehand, so that the best possible arrangements can be made for the party.

#### ENGAGEMENT.

The engagement is announced of Miss Rosamund Montgomery to Mr. Reginald Simpson, of Everest, Esher.

Miss Montgomery was trained at St. Thomas's Hospital, and took her training in the nursing of infectious diseases at the South Western Fever Hospital, Stockwell. She has for some time past been doing excellent work on the Co-operation of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

#### DONATIONS.

##### House Beautiful Fund.

Misses R. Montgomery, J. Niccol, J. U. Smith, 10s.; Miss J. Campbell, 5s.

##### Purchase Fund.

Miss R. Silcock and Miss M. Tait (collected), £36 11s.; Messrs. Pontifex Pitt and Co., £15 15s.; Miss E. Brodie, £5; Miss M. Gittens (collected), £4 8s.; Misses A. Carson Rae, M. Breay, E. A. Starke, £2 2s.; Miss C. Ford, £1 15s. 6d.; Miss R. Silcock, £1 15s.; Miss A. Siddons, £1 10s.; Mrs. G. E. Lawther, £1 5s.; Misses Downie, C. Liddiatt, A. M. K. Scott, C. A. Wetherspoon, £1; Misses K. Bellamy, A. Goodman, M. Morris, 10s.; Mrs. R. Strong, Misses A. E. Crowsley, A. B. Curtis, C. Dearth, K. Royds, 5s.; Miss M. Tait, 4s. 6d.; Miss M. A. Barnes Groom, 3s. 6d.; Mrs. F. E. Cross, E. M. Dickson, E. A. Lane, 2s. 6d.; Miss S. Cross, 2s.; Mrs. M. Bates, Misses K. H. Burgess, B. Fraser, Z. M. Jones, B. McDougall, J. Mountney, E. A. Phillips, E. E. Please, G. A. Please, A. E. Shephard, S. H. P. Sullivan, M. M. Tipper, H. M. Williams, 1s.

ISABEL MACDONALD,

Secretary to the Corporation.

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