

Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

COMMUNICATION TO THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH FROM THE GENERAL COUNCIL ON THE REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE TRAINING AND SUPPLY OF MIDWIVES.

The Report of the Departmental Committee on the Training and Employment of Midwives was placed before the General Council of the Association at its Quarterly Meeting. As a result of the discussion the following letter, covering a resolution passed by the Council, has been forwarded to the Ministry of Health:—

THE ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

194, Queen's Gate,
London, S.W.7.

30th October, 1929.

The Rt. Hon. the Minister of Health,
Ministry of Health,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

SIR,—I am instructed to forward to you copy of a Resolution passed at a Meeting of the General Council of this Corporation yesterday.

My Council consider that the proposals, incorporated in the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Training and Employment of Midwives, to remove from the Central Midwives' Board—

(a) power to approve and inspect training schools and teachers,

(b) power to lay down the training curriculum for midwives, and to formulate its course and length,

and to place these powers with the Ministry of Health is subversive to the progress and development of Midwifery as a Profession. My Council hold that the results of severing such powers from what ought to be the Governing Body of the Profession is calculated to deprive that Profession of self-government, to stultify the powers of the Central Midwives' Board to protect and promote the education of midwives, and likewise its powers to enforce the maintenance of uniform and standardised conditions in the provisions for adequate training in the midwifery schools.

In short, the result of the proposals incorporated in the Report, if adopted, would be (as already indicated in paragraph 63 of the Report) to convert the Governing Body of the Profession of Midwifery, which ought to hold full educational and disciplinary power, into a mere penal board with a clerical department for the maintenance of the Roll and powers to appoint an examinations board.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

ISABEL MACDONALD, *Secretary.*

Resolution.

"That this Council strongly deprecates the tendency of the Report on the Training and Employment of Midwives, to place the profession of Midwifery under the Ministry of Health, thereby depriving the Midwives of self-government,

stultifying their opportunities for professional development and curtailing the functions of the Central Midwives Board for protecting and promoting standards of education for Midwives."

REMEMBRANCE DAY.

We have received the following letter from Lady Rice-Oxley:—

DEAR MISS MACDONALD,

The Nurses have been most kind in the past in connection with Remembrance Day, and I am sure that, in recent years, we owed the success of this in the Royal Borough in no small measure to the efforts made by the Members of the Royal Association of Nurses. I should be most grateful if they would renew their kindness by undertaking to help with the Sale of Poppies on next Remembrance Day, Monday, November 11th. Any helpers can obtain their Poppies at the Royal Palace Hotel after 8 a.m. on that day, but if others want to begin selling before 8 o'clock, I can give them supplies at the Town Hall on Saturday, November 9th, between 3 and 6 o'clock. I mention the Royal Palace Hotel because it is nearer Queen's Gate.

I hope Miss Treasure may be free to help us; she has so often done splendid work for the British Legion on Remembrance Day.

I am, Yours sincerely,

EVA A. RICE-OXLEY.

The Secretary will be very glad if those Members of the Association who will help in selling Poppies will send up their names to her at 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7. Lunch and tea will be provided at the R.B.N.A. Club for all members who are helping in the Royal Borough on Remembrance Day, and therefore we must know beforehand how many to expect.

DONATIONS.

The Hon. Treasurer acknowledges with thanks the following Donations:

Helena Benevolent Fund.

Fulham Hospital Nurses, 3s. 6d.; Miss E. Dawson, 1s.

Purchase Fund.

Mrs. John Temple, £2 2s.; Miss M. J. Parke, £1 15s.; Miss J. Holmes, 10s.; Miss B. Cutler, 3s.

AUSTRALIAN BRANCH.

The latest Report from the South Australian Branch is quite encouraging. It shows that the Club for Nurses there is paying its way—a very important matter indeed to the finances of our Branch Association; the Private Nurses' Co-operation also appears to have had a successful year and a large number of cases have had to be refused.

OBITUARY.

It is with deep regret that we report the death at Brighton of Miss Jane Rothwell Carew. She was trained at Guy's Hospital, was a very early Member of the Association and always interested in its work.

The Association was represented at the funeral by Miss E. S. Davies.

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