

A very satisfactory report for 1928-1929 has been presented to the shareholders by the Directors of the United Nursing Services Club, Ltd., 34, Cavendish Square, London, W. Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of York, is President of the Club; Dame Ethel Becher, G.B.E., R.R.C., Vice-President; and Dame Ann Beadsmore-Smith, D.B.E., R.R.C., Chairman.

The report states that the Directors are very gratified to be able to report a substantial increase in the profit on the year's working. The balance of the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending August 31st, 1929, is £1,377 8s. 1d., as against £824 4s. 9d. last year, and they proposed that a five per cent. dividend should be paid.

The membership is now 1,284, compared with 1,246 for the previous year.

The Directors and the indefatigable Secretary (Miss M. F. Steele, R.R.C.) are cordially to be congratulated on the success of the year's working.

There is certainly plenty of vitality in the Imperial Nurses' Club, if one may judge by the enthusiasm of its members when it celebrated its thirteenth Birthday last week.

A goodly number mustered in the pretty drawing-room each day, and it was difficult to say which of the kind and capable performers was most popular—Miss Carma Linn's sweet soprano notes on the first day contrasted with Mrs. Dale's rich contralto tones the following afternoon; the brilliant execution of Mrs. Woolner in a number of piano solos, and the extremely amusing recitations given by Mrs. Saffery held the audiences spellbound; while the varied programme provided by the Misses Logan Wright and Mrs. Roberts came to an end all too soon. Miss Donaldson and Major Clarke also contributed to the musical programme on one of the afternoons in an outstandingly artistic manner. The arrangements for Sunday were to have included a talk by Miss E. E. S. Hill (King's) on her hospital experiences in India, but instead of this the speaker gave an earnest address on the spiritual life of a Christian.

Each day during "Birthday Week" a small stock of articles was displayed for sale, and trade became very brisk on the last day, when the Dowager Countess of Minto (a Vice-President of the Club) brought a box of gifts from the Queen, to be sold for the benefit of the "Furnishing Fund." Her Majesty had heard that the Club is acquiring five more rooms, and has opened a Fund to meet the expenses connected with them, and she most kindly sent this contribution in support of the new effort. Miss Mayers and the Committee hope that all members, past and present, as well as the large number of Nurses who occasionally make use of the Club as non-members, will follow her example!

We wonder what becomes of all the certificates, badges and permits for which duplicates are issued, month after month, by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, after a prescribed time of waiting. At the October and November meetings alone, 24 applications for duplicate Silver Badges, four for duplicate certificates of Registration, and 13 for duplicate permits to obtain the State Uniform

were granted. The position is really a serious one. It is scarcely conceivable that twenty-four nurses should have lost their Badges in two months. If not, and they have been stolen, who is now wearing them? It is a distinct danger to the public.

We are glad to learn that the Lambeth Guardians have decided to provide each ward in their hospital with a gas-ring to be used only for sterilisation purposes.

It was reported to the Board that in all the wards instruments for dressings had to be sterilised on a gas-cooker which was used to prepare the patients' food.

The Assistant Medical Officer said this procedure was "inconvenient, unpleasant and dangerous." We entirely agree.

Miss Elizabeth Smellie, R.R.C., Chief Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada, writes in the Annual Report for 1928:—

"At the Annual Meeting of the Victorian Order held in May, a forward step of national interest to Board members was taken, when at the round table conference, presided over by Dr. Helen Reid, the members of the Board of Governors present from every part of Canada made the suggestion that Board members' conferences should be held regionally to discuss local problems and administration. This request was later brought to the Executive Council and it was decided that a small appropriation should be set aside to hold two such conferences within the year. One was arranged for Hamilton in January. We hope some such plan can be worked out both in the Maritimes and in the Western districts.

"Definite plans leading towards decentralisation in the new year were outlined."

The special form of scholarship of the Frontier Nursing Service, Kentucky, is an \$800.00 grant in midwifery in Great Britain, including all expenses over and back to America, to trained public health nurses who have been long enough with the Frontier Nursing Service to show their special aptitude for its work. These grants are paid in two instalments, and the nurses refund fifty per cent. of them in monthly instalments upon their return to the organisation.

THE QUEEN'S INSTITUTE OF DISTRICT NURSING.

The Council of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing met recently at 58, Victoria Street. The Queen, as Patron of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, having approved in principle the revised constitution of the Irish branch, the Council considered the regulations for the Executive Committees of Northern and Southern Ireland respectively, which had been agreed upon between the Irish representatives and the General Purposes Committee of the Institute. These regulations were passed unanimously, and the formation of the Central Irish Council of the Institute will now be proceeded with.

The Queen has made the following appointments For Northern Ireland: The Marchioness of Londonderry. For the Irish Free State: Geraldine Countess of Mayo, and Mr. E. White.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)