

shortly on application to the Secretary, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7.

Miss E. A. Jones has very kindly undertaken to give us a Concert during March in aid of the Purchase Fund for 194, Queen's Gate, but we have not yet received from her intimation of the exact date. Miss Jones has done a great deal for our benevolent activities, but this time she wishes to "put in a brick" in Queen's Gate. She has a very wide circle of musical friends and we expect to have a great treat.

BI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION IN ADELAIDE.

Progressive Action by our South-Australian Branch.

The following communication has been forwarded by our South Australian Branch to all its members, and copies have also been sent to Medical Men and to Nurses in the State who do not belong to the R.B.N.A. :—

"Special Notice to Members"

The Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association (South Australian Branch) desires to bring, before the notice of members of the Branch, the Regulation recently proclaimed by the Executive Council under the Nurses' Registration Act, 1920-1922.

'All Registered Nurses, whether registered as Mental, General, or Midwifery Nurses, practising in either capacity, must wear the prescribed Badge of such Registration. The Badge to be worn in such a position as to be clearly visible. Penalty for breach of Regulation, not exceeding £5.'

All Registered Nurses, whether members of the A.N.F. or R.B.N.A., are requested to report to the Secretary of their respective Association any breach of the above, also to report privately any unregistered nurse who may have come under their notice and who is practising as a trained registered nurse. The Secretary will report privately to the Nurses' Registration Board.

By order of the Committee,

W. MULLANEY.

Secretary.

Royal British Nurses' Association
(South Australian Branch)."

At the Half-Yearly Meeting of the South Australian Branch in Adelaide it was stated that the Council had taken into very serious consideration the question of the number of unregistered nurses who were practising in the State. The result of such consideration led the Council to make strenuous efforts to remedy what they regard as a serious position and one productive of very unfair competition for the Registered Nurses practising in the State. The new Regulation quoted in the Special Notice is the result of representations from the Council of our Australian Branch, both by letter and by personal interviews with the Chairman and Members of the Nurses' Registration Board. Further, the Australian Nurses' Federation (in which the A.T.N.A. is now merged) and the South Australian Branch of the British Medical Association were approached by the Council of the R.B.N.A. and their co-operation in the matter was sought and their Members circularised.

We congratulate the Branch Association on its energetic action. By bringing about the adoption of such a Regulation and all that it involves, it has done something very tangible to protect the public against inefficiency, and by directing attention thus to the great importance of Registration, it has undoubtedly achieved something too that will enhance the status of a legally recognised professional qualification. Any step whatever which is calculated to enlighten the public on the subject of who are competent and who are incompetent to be entrusted with the care of their sick is bound to have good results. It is much to the credit of the Association that it has taken such direct measures to remedy what it regarded as an evil, and to remove confusion and misunderstandings. All the more

is its action worthy of commendation because it is evident, from the Special Notice just quoted, that, once the Regulation was through, the Council of the Branch lost no time in giving to the Nurses' Registration Board every assistance and support in order to make their Regulation operative in protecting Nurses. The terms of the Special Notice gives to every Registered Nurse opportunity to utilise the protection which the Regulation offers, while placing upon the administrative department of the Association, and not upon individuals, the onus of giving information which will lead to the conviction of those who unlawfully represent themselves to be Registered Nurses. We well know from experience how often people will adorn themselves with a badge which they have no claim to wear, and how valueless such a badge may sometimes become thereby. We hope that the efforts of our daughter Association in Australia will prove successful in "sorting out", for the discrimination of the medical men and the public there, the Registered Nurses and those who, by the Profession in South Australia will, after such strong action, readily come to be regarded merely as quacks.

We thank the Secretary of the Branch Association for having, in her covering letter, given to us particulars on this important piece of work by the Association; she has dealt with it in some detail, she tells us, because she knows that the parent Association in England is always keenly interested in anything pertaining to the welfare and the upliftment of the Profession. From the results of our observation we should say that the time has now come when some similar or analogous action in England would be opportune.

Other matters referred to in the Report show that the Branch Association is making good progress. The excess of income over expenditure for the half year was £19 5s. 11d. A very successful ball took place in July at which his Excellency the Governor and Lady Hore-Ruthven were present, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and representatives of the Medical Profession; the profit arising from this ball was voted to the Home Committee for repairs to the Home. The following are to be congratulated on their new appointments:—Miss Stacey, who is now Matron of Loxton Hospital; Miss Hanson, who has taken a similar post at the Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, Mount Barker; and Miss Stevens, who has been appointed Home Sister of the Adelaide Children's Hospital.

OBITUARY.

It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Percival White, Esq., M.D., C.M. Dr. White took a great interest in the Association and its activities while he lived in London, and he was one of its earliest members. On his retirement, Dr. White went to reside at Hove and soon commenced to take a very active part in the work of various Committees connected with hospitals and nursing administration, where his work is remembered also with a deep appreciation.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We would remind our members that, under the Bye-laws, all membership subscriptions to the Association fall due on January 1st of each year. A large number of these are still unpaid for the current year, and if members will see that they are forwarded at an early date, the cost of sending out reminders will be minimised and also a considerable amount of unnecessary work for the office staff will be avoided. We ask for consideration in this respect because more and more do our benevolent activities add to the duties that lies outside the ordinary routine of office work for the Association itself.

ISABEL MACDONALD,

Secretary to the Corporation.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)