

the re-addressing. After tea and Christmas cake people began to disappear to dress for dinner, which commenced at 6.30 p.m., in order to allow night nurses to remain to the end. Some fifty nurses sat down to dinner, a few of them having guests of their own; on the top table were arranged the Stars and Stripes and the British Flag on a tall stand, in honour of the Association's guests. The Rev. Mr. Whalley said grace and then telegrams were read conveying good wishes from H.R.H. the President, from the Fairy Godmother (Mrs. John Temple). A message of good wishes was also sent by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Founder and Vice-Chairman, and a telegram "on behalf of the Flying Dutchwomen" from Miss Meyboom in Holland.

The fine champagne, sent by Mrs. Temple, doubtless added to the general merriment, and in addition to this she sent sweets, fruit and many of the gifts we referred to; others were sent from Miss Cattell and Miss Macdonald. The Christmas fare well sustained the reputation of the R.B.N.A. cook, Miss Kathleen Morrissey; everyone agreed that the pudding was excellent and the turkey cooked to a nicety. All the usual toasts were honoured and, in replying to that of "the Guests," Miss Roberts said that it had long been one of her dreams to spend a Christmas in England but it surpassed all her dreams that she should take Christmas dinner in England with members of her own profession. In the drawing-room afterwards we inaugurated a new ceremony for we procured a taper and members lit the candles in the old brass candle brackets (presented by the Dutch nurses) with thoughts for absent friends. And so ended another Christmas; the next will be the tenth anniversary of Christmas day at the Club and it speaks of something accomplished in the first uphill years that we no longer are the tenants but the proprietors of 194, Queen's Gate and have cleared a very large proportion of the loan we took towards completing the amount required for its purchase.

We wish all our Members a very happy New Year, and thank them for all their kindness to their Association and its benevolent schemes during that which has gone.

NEW YEAR WISHES.

We would convey to all our members the best of good wishes that the New Year may hold for them many joys. We thank them very warmly for all the support which they have given to their Association in the year which has gone, for all their generosity and the kind interest which they have taken in its varied activities. Most particularly too would we thank them for their kindness to their sick and aged colleagues; the Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund has again invested a thousand pounds during the year, which means another two names added to our list of annuitants. The Helena Benevolent Fund has extended help to many members during the year and, especially in December, very many grants were made to those who, but for the help of the "Helena" would have had but a poor Christmas indeed; at least we were able, thanks to the generosity of their fellow members, to relieve them a little of their burdens of suffering or care. The Settlement Home has had a heavy strain on its finances during the past year, for a long garden wall had to be entirely rebuilt and other structural repairs became necessary. However, no doubt we shall sail safely through that financial problem.

A VERY HANDSOME CHRISTMAS GIFT.

We are again indebted to Mrs. John Temple for the very generous gift of £100 of War Stock to the General Fund of the Corporation. The Executive Committee have expressed very sincere appreciation of the constantly renewed generosity and kindness of Mrs. Temple to her Association. She is by no means one of those who forgets her profession though she has stepped out of its ranks.

SALE OF WORK FOR THE HOUSE BEAUTIFUL FUND.

We held our Sale of Work on two different dates this year, but the principal sale took place on the same date as the birthday party (December 6th).

We are glad to announce the result will be sufficient to meet the expense of the redecoration of our double drawing-room which we set before us as the object of the sale. In this room we have gatherings, of one sort or another, in almost every week of the year, except during August and September, and members often remark on what a source of pleasure this particular room is to them. One of our members, Miss Marian Fox, who is possessed of a spirit of industry and ten clever fingers, has just made beautiful new covers for lounges and chairs in a lovely dull shade of shot blue and petunia.

We thank all the members who have sent us such pretty gifts for the sale; it will be very nice to feel, when the room is in all its fresh array, that its beauty is due so very largely to the artistic accomplishments of so many of our nurses. Especially do we thank Miss Antoinette Schuller, who always takes great trouble to make the sale a success and invariably manages to get the largest sum of any stall-holder. The cakes prepared by the Club cook, Miss Kathleen Morrissey, are always in great demand and, although she had prepared a large number of these, her stock of cakes laid on for "Sunday Tea" had to be requisitioned to help to meet that demand.

GIFTS TO THE CLUB.

H.R.H. Princess Arthur of Connaught, Venison; Mrs. Temple, £100 War Stock, Flowers, Champagne, Sweets and other gifts; Miss Treasure, Christmas Tree, Flowers, Plants; Sir Ian Leith of Fyvie, Evergreens; Miss Banks, Sweets and Cigarettes; Miss Bevan, Roses; Miss Beal, Jam Spoon; Miss Briggs, Flowers; Miss Campbell, Flowers; Miss Cameron, Walnuts; Miss Calvert, Flowers; Miss Donaldson, Gramophone Record; General Burton-Foster, Woodcock; Miss Graham, Roses and Flowers; Miss Goode, Tablecloth; Miss E. A. Jones, two Novels and old-time Cookery book; Miss Mace, Flowers; Miss Maxwell Moffat, Roses; Mrs. Ryder Richardson, Gramophone Record; Miss A. Thompson, Flowers; Miss Saagman and Miss Newman (of Holland), Cake; Mrs. Wells, Pears; Mrs. Harte, Turkey.

British Legion Book: Miss Dowse. Flowers: Misses Banks, Bellamy, Cameron, Mrs. Crassweller, Misses Donaldson, C. Glover, MacLean, Morris, E. Phillips, Randall, Sims, Tait, Treasure, Winterbourn. Plants: Miss Treasure, Old Blue China Bowl: Mrs. Weld. Cigarettes, Misses Crassweller.

AUSTRALIAN BRANCH.

The last report from the Australian Branch is satisfactory although it points to the fact that the existing economic position in Australia is reflected in the nursing profession there and that those responsible for the administration of the Association in Australia have plenty of difficulties to cope with. However, with their accustomed energy they will doubtless see that the "good ship" of the daughter Association weathers the storm. The Club apparently continues to be greatly appreciated by the nurses; incidentally, we envy our Australian colleagues its garden. That the private nurses are feeling the general economic depression, just as in England, is indicated by the fact that there have been fewer calls on the emergency staff than in previous years. Miss Davidson has been elected to represent the Branch on the Nurses Registration Board of South Australia in place of the late Miss Mulaney.

ISABEL MACDONALD,

Secretary to the Corporation.

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