

250,000 visitors enjoyed the privilege of seeing the gardens, and, before the end of the season, inquiries were already being received at the head office of the Queen's Institute as to the arrangements for 1932.

The "At Home" held on November 18th by the Matron-in-Chief and the Members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, upheld well all the traditions of this pleasant annual gathering in the past. The rooms at Grosvenor House, where the Reception was held, are admirably suited for such gatherings, and the long vista of the large tea rooms and entrance hall added much to the effectiveness of the surroundings; during the afternoon there was excellent music by the Royal Artillery Band. Miss Medforth, the popular Matron-in-Chief, received many guests, and groups of friends gathered round the tables with their tempting display of good things. We congratulate Miss Medforth on another happy reunion of members of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. and their friends.

The United Nursing Services Club, Ltd., held its Tenth Ordinary General Meeting on Wednesday, November 25th at 34, Cavendish Square, London, W.1.

Dame Ann Beadsmore Smith, D.B.E., R.R.C., Chairman, whose charming personality must be a great asset to the Club, had kindly invited the Directors to lunch at the Club, and it was a great pleasure to everyone that the Vice-President, Dame Ethel Becher, G.B.E., R.R.C., was also present. The Club owes to her a great debt of gratitude, as it was due to her influence that it came into existence. She was the first chairman, and did yeoman work during the early days.

The meeting of the shareholders was held in the Club drawing-room, which was beautifully decorated with lovely flowers kindly given by one of its members. The Chairman, Dame Ann Beadsmore Smith, presented the Directors' report, which was in every way most satisfactory. The Directors recommended a payment of a 5 per cent. dividend, an announcement which was received with acclamation.

The income and expenditure account, for the year ended August 31st, 1931, showed an excess of income over expenditure of £1,436, after £298 16s. 11d. for preliminary and formation expenses had been written off. All of these expenses have now been defrayed. The Directors are greatly to be congratulated on the success of the Club as indicated in the Balance Sheet.

Miss R. E. Darbyshire, R.R.C., made an excellent little speech on the work and future vision of the Club, and hoped the members realised that the Directors kept the future interests of the Club well before them.

Dame Ann Beadsmore Smith paid a warm tribute to the Secretary, Miss M. F. Steele, R.R.C., for the splendid work that had been done, also to the Assistant Secretary, Miss MacBain. The meeting then terminated, after which tea was served, when many well-known members were present. The whole proceedings were marked by a pleasant atmosphere of homeliness, and so ended a successful afternoon.

The Central Public Health Committee of the London County Council have reported to the Council that they

have sanctioned payment of the entrance fees of candidates taking examinations held by the General Nursing Council during the year 1931, in respect of those members of the nursing staff in hospitals or institutions under their management, whose fees would have been paid by the late authorities by whom they were originally engaged.

Also that they have made a rule that with the exception of first-year probationer nurses and domestic staff under 18 years of age the female staff of hospitals and institutions allocated as hospitals shall be allowed on request one late pass a week until 12 midnight or later at the discretion of the matron in the case of hospitals etc., in the outer suburbs, and shall be granted on request permission to sleep out of the hospital or institution on the night immediately preceding their weekly leave. First-year probationer nurses and domestic staff under 18 years of age shall be allowed on request one late pass a week until 11 p.m. at hospitals and institutions where the normal time of return is earlier than 11 p.m., and shall be granted, on request, permission, at the discretion of the matron only, to sleep out of the hospital or institution on the night immediately preceding their weekly leave. Any permission given under this rule shall be subject to the exigencies of the service.

Our sympathy is with the Imperial Nurses Club (137, Ebury Street, S.W.), and its indefatigable Hon. Secretary, Miss C. H. Mayers, which, having surmounted successfully the considerable cost entailed in making the premises secure, after receiving from the London County Council a "Dangerous Structure" Notice, now hears that its rents are to be raised by £90 a year. The only way of meeting this permanent increase in the expenses is by raising the annual subscription from 10s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. Even at this sum the members have very good value for their money.

Birthday Week, November 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th was one of the happiest ever experienced.

Considerable benefit accrued to the funds of The Benevolent Fund for Nurses in Scotland as a result of a Sale of Work held in the Nurses' Home, at Dundee Royal Infirmary, on November 6th.

The Sale was organised by the Matron and Nursing Staff of the Infirmary, and was opened by Mrs. J. C. Buist of Balgillo, near Dundee, wife of the President of the Hospital. The stalls were very artistically laid out and displayed a fine variety of needlework (plain and fancy) and knitted articles, also cake, candy, fruit, flowers, etc. The side shows attracted much attention and yielded a good return.

Although the Sale was of a semi-private nature, being advertised only among the Staff and friends of the Infirmary, more than 500 persons paid for admission, and, during the three hours the Sale was in progress, every stall was cleared and the accommodation of the tea-room was taxed to the utmost. The sum realized amounted to £288 12s. 6d. This hearty and encouraging response is evidence of the esteem which the people of Dundee have, not only for the Nursing Profession in general, but also for the organisers of the effort—the Matron, Miss Niccol, and Nurses of the Dundee Royal Infirmary.

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