

# Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

## SALE OF WORK.

A large number of Members were at Headquarters on the 26th ult., when H.R.H. the Princess Arthur of Connaught, R.R.C., S.R.N., President of the Corporation, came to open our Annual Sale of Work for the House Beautiful Fund and to offer us her gracious good wishes for its success. On her arrival, the Princess was received by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mrs. Andrews, Miss Cutler, Mrs. Temple and Miss Treasure; the latter presented to Her Royal Highness a bouquet of lilies and carnations.

Miss Schuller, as usual, was one of our most active saleswomen, and her "provision stall" was a great centre of attraction with its nice cakes, chocolates and the like. Miss Cutler elected this year to have a stall for articles at sixpence and a shilling, and she and her helpers were kept very busy. There were stalls for babies' garments, calendars and pictures, needlework, china and other things, and the nurses from the Settlement Home had a busy time with their "fancy goods." The Members at the Club very much appreciated this evidence of good will from their colleagues at the Home in taking one of the stalls, and the energy with which Miss Nash (our popular Sister-in-Charge) and her colleagues displayed in helping to make the Sale a great success.

We very warmly thank Members of the Association for the generous help they have given to this effort towards maintaining the beauty of our Headquarters and Club. We thank them for generous gifts, generous purchases and equally generous and wholehearted good wishes. We only wish that we could more often welcome those who live out of London to our Club and we would especially thank them for their kindness to the Association.

## A HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

We offer to all our Members sincere good wishes that they may have a very happy Christmas. We know of some who feel that it is one which will leave behind it the memory of burdens of sickness and anxiety but these can often be lightened considerably if we bring our minds into such a mood that the Spirit of Christmas may gain entrance and dwell in us. There are, too, a number of our Members who, for financial reasons, cannot hope for much in the matter of Christmas festivity, and it will doubtless give satisfaction to many kind supporters of our Benevolent activities to know that, at its last meeting, the Executive Committee sanctioned a considerable number of grants, of one pound each, in order that we might give, to certain of our less fortunate Members of the Association, opportunity to enjoy some of the pleasant things that we have learnt to associate with Christmas, and perhaps an extra degree of comfort. On Christmas Day doubtless it will mean much to them to feel that such Christmas cheer comes through the good will, kindness and generosity of their fellow Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association. These grants are made from the Helena Benevolent Fund and we

shall be grateful for any small sums sent to the Fund to show that Members approve the action of their Committee and support them in their desire to help Members (many of whom helped to found the Association) who find life made harder by poverty or ill-health resulting from the self-sacrifice that marked their years of activity in our profession.

Several Members have written that they are coming up from the country to spend Christmas with us, and we shall be glad if any others who may propose doing so will give us notice as soon as possible. We shall also be glad if those who intend to eat Christmas dinner at the Club will give us notice beforehand.

## LECTURE.

### "The Beloved Physician."

Dr. A. S. Currie gave a very fine and scholarly lecture on November 12th, one peculiarly appropriate to the Christmas season; it was interspersed with quotations in Latin and Greek which, as they were translated, threw much light into the subject of the lecture. In introducing him Miss Kent referred to his kindness to the nurses and his interest in all their efforts to achieve professional organisation. It seemed to her peculiarly appropriate that a lecture on St. Luke should be given to nurses by a medical man. Miss Kent liked to think that probably Phoebe of Cenchrea worked as a nurse under St. Paul's own physician—St. Luke.

It is impossible to give anything like a comprehensive report of the lecture, and we should like to have taken our readers over the survey of medical science through which Dr. Currie led us, up to and during the time of the Evangelist. We were given most interesting information on Æsculapius, Hippocrates and Aristotle in particular, and on great schools and universities in Athens, Rome, Alexandria, Antioch, and even in Jerusalem.

Little, said the lecturer, may be gathered of St. Luke from the references to him in the New Testament, but much may be learned from the historians of his own times and in periods just subsequent to those. In his Gospel he carefully abstains from introducing his own name, but refers to himself in an indirect way by the frequent use of the pronouns "we" and "they." From early Christian letters we can judge that St. Luke was born some fifteen years before our Lord. His father was a Greek in easy if not affluent circumstances, and his mother a Jewess. St. Luke was born in Antioch of Syria and first bore the name of Lucas Antipas. There was a splendid university in Antioch, and there St. Luke acquired an intimate knowledge of pure Greek, of philosophy, literature and the general culture of that great nation. He devoted himself to the study of medicine, which was really in a very advanced state, as a result of the attainments of Hippocrates and of Aristotle also; how thoroughly the Evangelist was imbued with medical knowledge is shown in his writings. It is

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)