

Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

LETTER FROM H.R.H. THE PRESIDENT.

The following letter has been received from H.R.H. the President in reply to a resolution of sympathy sent from the Executive Committee. We also received a telegram from the Princess thanking the nurses for a letter of sympathy sent to her when we received the news of the death of Her Royal Highness, the Princess Royal, and for the flowers sent from the Association:—

41, Belgrave Square, S.W.1.
24th January, 1931.

Dear Miss MACDONALD,

Thank you for your letter. Will you please convey to the Executive Committee my most grateful thanks for their sympathy in my great sorrow.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) ALEXANDRA.

MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the General Council was held on January 24th, to which the Executive Committee sent up a long report informing the Council of the activities of the Association during the quarter ending 31st December last and of work accomplished in Committee. Particulars regarding most of those activities have already been given in our official organ. The financial reports for the quarter were satisfactory. The Helena Benevolent Fund has had an unusually heavy expenditure, but this is to be expected during the winter season, and also it is the habit of the Committee to make a number of small grants at Christmas time to nurses whom they know to be in reduced circumstances, in order that they may be assured of comfort on Christmas Day. The expenditure for the Settlement Fund was heavy owing to the fact that a long garden wall had to be completely rebuilt during the autumn.

There was considerable discussion on the matter of salaries paid by the London County Council to its nurses and particularly on the relationship between the salaries of fully qualified Registered nurses, and those who are not State Registered and who, in most instances, do not hold a three years' certificate of General Training. One Member of the Council brought forward an instance of a Registered nurse, holding the C.M.B. certificate, and employed in a general hospital who was receiving £65 a year while an unregistered nurse, without the C.M.B., was receiving £60. The former nurse contended, it was stated, that her position as a Registered nurse and her C.M.B. certificate, were therefore regarded as only amounting in value to £5 annually by the authorities.

Other Members expressed the view that if probationers received smaller salaries, or perhaps no remuneration at all while training, and if better economic standards were established for State Registered nurses, the type of women entering the profession would soon begin to show signs of improvement. Instructions were given to the Executive Committee to go into the matter, to take such action as

might appear to them to be advisable and to report to the Council.

NOTICES TO MEMBERS.

We would remind our Members that their Annual Subscriptions to the Association fell due on the 1st January last. A large percentage of those have not been received, and if forwarded at an early date this will save not only expense to the Association but also a great deal of work for the clerical department.

SETTLEMENT.

Two small rooms are shortly to fall vacant at the Settlement Home, and the Committee, at their next Meeting, will probably arrange who is to have those. Any retired members who wish to make application for them, should write at once to the Secretary, and their names, with all particulars given, will be brought before the Committee with those of nurses who have already made application. The rooms are partially furnished; the charge for the two is two shillings weekly, which includes rent, lighting, medical attendance and window cleaning. Usually only one room is given to each nurse, but as these are small and high up, they are taken as one.

RECOGNITION.

Honours fall to the nurses in divers ways but probably the recognition received from a patient by Miss Joan Dempster, a Member of the Royal British Nurses' Association's Co-operation, is unique in its way. Professor Forsyth, Sc.D., LL.D., Math.D., F.R.S. (Wrangler; formerly Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge; sometime Sladerian Professor in the University of Cambridge; Emeritus Professor, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, etc.), has dedicated to her two handsome and scholarly volumes on "Geometry of Four Dimensions." The dedication runs as follows: "To Sister J. P. Dempster in Gratitude." In a letter covering a gift of both volumes of the book, beautifully bound in blue and gold, Professor Forsyth reminds Miss Dempster that, two years before, her care and skill throughout many weeks, "drew me back to health, even against my own desire, and made me willing to return to active work." The book, he states, is the outcome of that work and the letter continues, after thanks for kindness in the past, "I want you to feel that the dedication is a sign of gladness in the friendship you grant me and that also, not least, it is a token of my homage to your spirit."

But Miss Dempster is not alone in feeling honoured by this dedication, by one of the most profound of living mathematicians, of a great and erudite work which is a pioneer and may become a classic in the domain of mathematics. Members of the Nursing Profession take the greatest pleasure in Professor Forsyth's most dignified recognition of the services of one of their colleagues, the more so when we reflect on the sacrifice that is involved

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)