

# Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Corporation took place at 194, Queen's Gate on Thursday, 23rd June, at 3.0 p.m. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was in the Chair. The attendance was smaller than usual, but the meeting was an enthusiastic one. The Report of the Executive Committee recapitulated a great deal of what has already appeared in our Official Organ and indicated that the Association had been active in all its different branches.

Work for Members of the Association's Co-operation had been more plentiful than in the previous year, but the Report specially stressed the extent to which competition from the unqualified entered into the field of private nursing practice. In no other branch of nursing is there the same risk of patients being left, without supervision, in the care of inefficient nurses, and it was urged that every opportunity be taken to educate the public to the dangers arising from this for the patients and the reputation and prestige of the nursing profession and its economics. It was with deep regret that reference was made to the deaths of several founder Members of the Association. The Report expressed the pleasure it had given to the Committee when the Secretary received the Fenwick Gold Medal of Merit for Organisation, especially because this recognition came from the Founder of the Association and the leader of the organisation of the Nursing Profession. In speaking on the Report, Miss Solomon said that she thought the Members owed much to the vigilance of the Committee in connection with the Nursing Profession (Hours and Wages) Bill. The nurses' organisations had never been consulted when the Bill was drafted and its provisions would have been disastrous to the interests of private patients. Miss Solomon also said that she was glad to see that the hospitality of the Headquarters and Club had been extended to nurses from other countries; this was good for the international spirit which it is desirable to foster. Dr. King Brown said that the Committee was to be congratulated on the report presented; it indicated that the activities of the Association were many-sided and that the Committee endeavoured to meet the needs and interests of the Members in many directions.

The Financial Reports showed an excess of income of £127 10s. 7d. over expenditure, the Helena Benevolent Fund's income had exceeded its expenditure by £9 3s. 2d., while in the Settlement Fund the expenditure had been over £100 in excess of its income. This was due to certain alterations and repairs which had been undertaken during the year, and it was hoped that it would be adjusted before another Report was presented. In fact such adjustment had in a sense taken place for, on hearing of the needs of the Settlement Fund, Mrs. John Temple had generously promised it the gift of £100 of War Stock early in the current year. The Hon. Treasurer said that the most notable feature of the Report was that, during the year under report, we had succeeded in repaying the last of the loan which we had from our Bankers for the purchase of 194, Queen's Gate. Thereby we were able to

place it on record that we had taken a lease of the house in 1921 and, largely by the good will and sacrifice of our Members, we made it the property of the Association in 1931. The sum of £140 is still due to the Helena Benevolent Fund, but the capital of this Fund belongs to the Association and interest is paid from the General Fund to the Benevolent Fund on the loan referred to. In commenting on the Report, the Chairman said that it was obvious that the Association had a very kind friend in one of its Members—Mrs. John Temple. It is not always that people are ready to share their good fortune with others, but it is obvious that Mrs. Temple does most generously share hers with her colleagues. We hear repeatedly of a gift of War Stock to one Fund or another, in order to give them greater stability in the future, but this is only a part of her many kindnesses to the nurses and, moreover, these kindnesses are extended in a way that gives the feeling that Mrs. Temple takes real joy in them. It is within the knowledge of many in this room that scarcely ever does a function take place at the Club, be it a Christmas dinner or any other event of the kind, when Mrs. Temple does not provide many gifts to add to the general hospitality and enjoyment. When she stays at the Club many are the ways which she finds to give pleasure to the Members and to add beauty to the Club. We all appreciate this greatly from a Member of our own Association, especially because we have the feeling that Mrs. Temple never forgets that she is one of our colleagues; although she may have given up nursing, she takes a joy in helping those who are still carrying on the work which she herself loved. One or two Members spoke on the Report which, with the Auditors' Statements of Accounts, was unanimously adopted.

The following were elected to fill vacancies on the General Council arising under Bye-law XVII.:—Dr. Henning Belfrage, Dr. Hastings Glover, Dr. Kelly, Dr. Courtenay Lord, Dr. McCrae, Dr. MacIlwaine, Dr. Burnett Rae, Dr. Rob, Mr. Smyth and Dr. Vintras; Misses Aldridge, A. Y. Brodie, Bryson, N. Farrant, L. M. Havers, E. Maunsell, S. Munro, Elma Smith, S. Vian, M. Vergette; Mrs. Brameld, Miss M. Dempster, Mrs. Eeles, Misses M. Flood, D. Graham, S. Hazelton, Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. Rees, Misses B. Ryan, E. Walker.

Miss Elma Smith proposed a vote of thanks to the Honorary Officers, speaking of the arduous work which they give for the Association and the valuable time so frequently placed at its service. On the motion of Miss Armstrong and seconded by Miss Johnson the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Secretary for all her work for the Association during the year.

## THE WRIGHT-KINGSFORD HOME.

### BIRTHDAY HONOUR FOR MISS WRIGHT.

The Report from the Wright-Kingsford Home makes good reading, for it bears evidence of work accomplished.

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