

Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The first Meeting of the newly constituted General Council was held on Friday, July 15th, when there was a good attendance of Members. The Report of the Executive Committee dealt with various activities of the Association subsequent to the previous Meeting of the Council and satisfactory Financial Reports were presented. The Members, still remaining on the Executive Committee from the Council of 1931, were re-elected and the following were added to the Committee subject to their consenting to act: Dr. McCrae, Dr. McIlwaine, the Misses A. S. G. Bryson, N. Farrant, Elma Smith, Mrs. Brameld, Mrs. Eeles, Misses D. Graham, B. Ryan. The following were elected Hon. Officers for the ensuing year: Vice-Chairmen, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mrs. Andrews, Miss Bickerton, R.R.C.; Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Stewart; Hon. Secretaries, Miss Cutler and Mr. Paterson. Arrangements were made for the Conversion of War Loan belonging to the General and Benevolent Funds of the Association. An aged nurse was nominated to receive the Alice Cattell Memorial which, it was reported, was nearly completed. A letter inviting the Association to send a representative to serve on the National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Great Britain was read. It was agreed that the invitation be accepted and that it be an instruction to the Executive Committee to appoint a representative. At the ordinary monthly Meeting of that Committee, held a week later, the Secretary was appointed to act.

HONOUR FOR MRS. LAMBERT.

We are pleased to note that Mrs. Lambert, M.R.B.N.A., of Fairfield, Lincoln, has been decorated with the insignia of a Serving Sister of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. She tells us that the ceremony was most interesting and picturesque. Members of the Chapter were present wearing their black robes with the white eight-pointed cross. The ceremony commenced with the repetition of the prayers of the Order and then the Sub-Prior of the Order (the Earl of Scarborough) said some words regarding the work they had accomplished as he handed to each person the decorations conferred upon them by this ancient order. Mrs. Lambert received hers chiefly on account of the work which she has done for the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, but the Sub-Prior referred also to the amount of Social work which she has undertaken among the poor of Lincoln and which he hoped might be continued. Mrs. Lambert has recently given up her work for the St. John Ambulance Brigade, but continues to be a Vice-President.

RAMBLERS' CLUB.

The Ramblers' Club made their last expedition before the holidays and set out to see Rochester Cathedral. As usual one of the pleasant aspects of the day was the run through lovely English country and the friendly companionship on the journey. Our Ramblers are cheerful

souls, out to extract every bit of beauty from all they see and hear. We have learned to look forward to these summertime pilgrimages and the Chief Rambler is beginning now to find it difficult to track out routes and places of interest not already explored. Some of the Ramblers are becoming real students of church architecture so often is one of our great Cathedrals the objective in the day's adventures.

We were given first, in the Nave, a brief history of Rochester Cathedral. Seven years after St. Augustine came to Canterbury he established a second bishopric at Rochester and consecrated Justus as its first bishop in 604 A.D.; a Cathedral was built by King Ethelbert and dedicated to St. Andrew; so much for its Saxon history. In Norman times (about 1080 A.D.) during the episcopate of Gundulf, so celebrated for the encouragement this Bishop gave to architecture, the old Saxon church was completely rebuilt and monastic buildings were added for Benedictine monks. Of Gundulf's rebuilding there still remain the Gundulf Tower and parts of the nave and crypt. His work was continued by Ernulf and John of Canterbury. The Early English parts of the Cathedral represent thirteenth century work; the Choir was built in 1227 by William of Hoo from the offerings of pilgrims at St. William's shrine. The various later additions were also shown to us. Among those who have held the Bishopric of Rochester were St. Paulinus, who died in 644, and was the Apostle of Northumbria, John Fisher, who opposed Henry VIII's divorce and was beheaded in 1535, and Nicholas Ridley, afterwards Bishop of London, who was burnt at Oxford in 1555.

The Nave of Rochester is a beautiful example of Norman architecture and we admired its great west window, its beautiful pillars arranged in pairs, the remains of a fresco of St. Christopher and the elaborate and beautiful carving over the arches of the triforium. In the Early English North Transept there were pointed out to us the vaulting bosses, carved heads and piscina and in the South Transept is the Lady Chapel. The choir is also Early English and its wood-work is among the oldest in England. The thirteenth century mural painting of the wheel of fortune is intended to represent the changeableness of earthly things; in it Fortune is represented as a Queen regulating the wheel. In the Presbytery is a finely coloured effigy of John of Sheppy, Bishop of Rochester, who died in 1360. In the North Transept we saw the site of St. William's Shrine. He was a baker of Perth who was murdered near Rochester on his way to the Holy Land. Near it is an alabaster effigy of Walter of Merton, Chancellor of Henry III, and Bishop of Rochester; he was the founder of Merton College, and was drowned in the Medway in 1277. In the South Choir Transept the Chapter Room doorway is a good example of fourteenth century work representing the Church and the Synagogue—two female figures, one with crozier and Church, the other blindfold with broken staff

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