

Royal British Nurses' Association.

Incorporated by



Royal Charter.

THIS SUPPLEMENT BEING THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CORPORATION.

THE SCOTTISH HOME OF THE PRESIDENT.

It gives us great pleasure to present to the members of the Association a picture of Mar Lodge, the Scottish home of our President, Princess Arthur of Connaught, R.R.C., S.R.N., which appears on page 15, and which we are sure will be appreciated by one and all.

CHRISTMAS AT HEADQUARTERS.

Christmas at 194, Queen's Gate was characterised by all the usual activity and excitement. The mail brought many a thrill and "sorting out the post" became at last a kind of ceremony in which all participated. "You seem to grow younger ever year in this house," remarked the postman as he came in with an armful of parcels. Miss Treasure's Christmas tree was a most beautiful thing with its fresh green boughs and gleaming lights; as usual she stipulated that parcels and gifts were not to be hung upon it. It must, said she, be such a Christmas tree as you would find in the Middle Ages—symbolic of light and life. To Miss Treasure also we are indebted for the beauty of our Headquarters during Christmas; everywhere she arranged flowers and all the Christmas decorations, some of which came from Sir Ian Leith of Fyvie. The dinner tables were also beautifully decorated by her and so those responsible for them had merely to enjoy the wonderful loveliness of beautiful flowers and green smilax that trailed among crackers, sweets and such like things. We were indebted to several people for gifts for our Christmas festivities. Mrs. Temple sent us fine old port, liqueurs, crackers, sweets and other things. Miss Huxley, M.A., and Miss Harte were the donors of two magnificent turkeys and Mrs. Ryder Richardson sent us boxes of crackers. From Miss Banks came gifts of various kinds and we received from Miss G. Macdonald, Mrs. Paterson, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Steele-Smith, Mrs. Watkins-Price and others cakes, sweets, etc., while from Miss Lewis, Miss McCash, Miss Walker and others we received lovely flowers. This year we decided that it should be quite an informal dinner, and so we dispensed with all the toasts that we have usually honoured. The dinner-party was a very merry one, and afterwards the members betook themselves to the drawing-room to enjoy coffee, cigarettes and liqueurs also the gift of the Fairy Godmother of the Club—Mrs. John Temple. Then, until eleven, the various members of the company enjoyed themselves according to their inclination in dancing, playing games or chatting round the fire.

We would send to all our members our good wishes for a very happy New Year, and we hope that it holds in store for them many good things.

FILM.

UNKNOWN NEPAL.

Major Lockwood Stevens was kind enough recently to show us the wonderful film, from the Ross Institute, on Nepal; Miss Jessie F. Holmes, M.R.B.N.A., F.B.C.N., took the Chair on this occasion and introduced Major Stevens. Nepal lies between India and Tibet and includes

the great ice barrier of the Himalayas. It is exceedingly isolated and, with the exception of a few officials, only about sixty Europeans have been known to visit it during the last fifty years; without special invitation, which is only received from the Maharajah, no European can cross its borders. The film consists of many views, connected with the work of Sir Malcolm Watson and Major Lockwood Stevens, in helping the Maharajah to deal with the malaria problem of his country.

First on the film came a view of the Ross Institute standing in its beautiful grounds; then we were shown its laboratories and other departments and were suddenly transported to the frontier station, Raxaul, between India and Nepal. After that we made a wide acquaintance with the scenery, architecture and habits and customs of Nepal; we saw great passes between the mountains and the mosquito investigators climbing the latter; the gradient of these mountains could be judged, in some degree, by the effort obviously being made by the travellers. In one picture we saw enormous, heavy tree trunks being conveyed by coolies which, as the lecturer said, gave a modern indication of the methods of building the pyramids. The weight of the burdens was enormous and the natives receive the equivalent of 2d. a day for their labours but, as it only costs them ¼d. a day to live, they may be said to be 9d. to the good at the end of the week! We saw numbers of Ghurkas drilling and the lecturer explained that all the Ghurkas came from Nepal; 200,000 were recruited for the British Forces during the Great War while the Maharajah gave up every machine gun which the country possessed and his whole army of 16,000 men (fully officered and equipped) to the British Empire, thus emphasising the fact that Nepal is a state which has very friendly relationships with Great Britain.

The examination of the children for malaria was very amusing. These children may contract malaria from birth and whole processions of them passed before Sir Malcolm Watson who quickly examined their spleens as they trotted by. One amusing picture was shown; the lecturer remarking beforehand that the Women's Movement had not made any progress in Nepal, for it was a case of "father riding, mother walking"; the former was on his donkey, the latter carried a load. In fact everyone seems to carry loads in Nepal, even the children do, but their expressions indicate that they enjoy life none the less for that. From the tops of mountains we viewed great vistas of country and peak after peak was seen against the sky, Mount Everest snow-covered among the rest; there were great forests of rhododendrons which grow taller than our oaks and must present a panorama of gorgeous colouring when they are in bloom. We saw entrancing views of the towns and villages, and in some of those every window was surrounded or surmounted by a mass of elaborate and beautiful carving; as picture after picture passed along the screen we could not but be impressed by the fact that wood presents a very plastic medium upon which men can impress their imaginations. The pagodas must be brilliant with all their paint especially when the market is busy.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)