

## NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

### THE LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

A General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses was held in the Lecture Room of the Nurses' Home of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., on Saturday, July 7th. Miss Helen Dey, President, was in the Chair.

In connection with the election of a Vice-President, the President announced that the Executive Committee had nominated Miss Gladys Le Geyt who was willing to act if elected. She referred to the interest taken by Miss Le Geyt in the work of the League and the service she had rendered to it in acting as Editor of *League News* since 1925.

In expressing her thanks for her election, which was unanimous, Miss Le Geyt said that she considered it an honour of which she would endeavour to be worthy. She had first learnt expression through the League, and to serve it in any way was a work of love.

Interesting and satisfactory reports of the various activities of the League were presented by the Hon. Officers. The announcement that during the year the League had contributed £250 for the Florence Nightingale Scholarship Fund was received with applause.

The event of the meeting was the most interesting account given by the President of the changes affecting the Nursing Staff in the hospital during her term of office beginning with the year 1927. Every subsequent year has seen some important piece of work accomplished upon which both the Governors of the hospital and the Matron are sincerely to be congratulated.

Referring to the fact that Miss Dey had been elected to a seat on the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick said that no one had a better right to sit on that Council than the Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, the only large Nurse Training School in London of which the Matron had supported the movement for the State Registration of Nurses from its initiation.

At the Social Gathering in the Great Hall, which followed the Meeting those present had the pleasure of meeting a number of the distinguished delegates present in London for the Inaugural Meeting of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation.

### THE LONDON HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF NURSES.

The London Hospital League of Nurses held their annual meeting on Saturday, July 14th, between 200 and 300 members attending during the day. The interesting programme of events included a most instructive lecture by Dr. Donald Hunter, on "New Aspects of Nutritional Diseases," followed by a demonstration in Grocers' Ward, when Miss Rose Simmonds showed practical applications of Dr. Hunter's teaching; alternatively a visit was arranged to Theatres and Sterilising Rooms, where the newest appliances were shown by the Theatre Sisters.

At 8.15 p.m. there was a service in St. Philip's Church, with an Address by the Bishop of Stepney, Warden of the League; and at 3 p.m. a General Meeting was held, by kind permission of the Dean, in the Library of the Medical College.

An interesting item of business transacted was the nomination of a Delegate for the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain in the place of Miss Littleboy, who was appointed a Director at the Annual Meeting of the Council in November, and was therefore entitled to a seat. Miss Beryl Carden, Superintendent of the Prison Nursing Service, H.M. Prison, Holloway, was nominated.

As the League now numbers 1,028 members it is entitled to a fourth Delegate, and for this position Miss May Parker, London Hospital, was nominated.

A very popular feature of the day's proceedings was the Dinner in the Library at 7 p.m., for which 220 covers were laid. The guests included several members of the Hon. Staff, Professor William Wright, Dean of the College, and Mr. A. G. Elliott, House Governor. The Chairman, Sir William Goschen who has been present on the two previous occasions, was, to his own regret and that of the members of the League, unable to be present.

In addition to the loyal toasts "The King" and "The Queen," both proposed by the President, Miss Beatrice Monk, R.R.C., the toasts were "Our Training School," proposed by Lady Rogers, and responded to by the Matron, Miss E. M. Littleboy, A.R.R.C.; "The London Hospital League of Nurses," proposed by Miss McEwan (Old Workers) and Miss Heany (Present Workers), and responded to by the President; and "The Guests," proposed by Mrs. Alan Perry and responded to by the House Governor, Mr. A. G. Elliott.

The Dinner was a very happy function and was followed by a Reception.

The whole day was a great success and those who participated in it expressed the hope that they would be able to come again in 1935 and each bring a new member, for although there are now 1,028 members of the League there are still old Londoners who apparently have not yet heard of it. The Hon. Secretary, Miss Dorothy Harvey, will be pleased to hear from any nurse holding the certificate of the London Hospital who would like to apply for membership.

### ROYAL ALEXANDRA INFIRMARY, PAISLEY.

The recent Annual Meeting and Summer Reunion of the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, Nurses' League was a great success. There was a good attendance of former nurses, from far and near, one from Exeter, another from New York, a third came all the way from Persia.

Friends in Paisley, who have supported the Whist-Drives and Dances will be interested to know that the net profit was over £35 of which £12 12s. went to the Scottish Benevolent Fund for Nurses, £3 to the Edith Cavell Rest Homes for Nurses and £20 to the League's special effort for the appeal of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, to which the League is affiliated, in support of The International Scheme for a Memorial to Florence Nightingale in the form of Scholarships for Nurses.

Reference was made to the loss which the League, and the town, had sustained through the death of Miss Agnes Gibson, whose cheerful devotion to duty, gave fresh courage to her patients and was an example and incentive to her comrades.

After the business meeting, members were addressed by the Rev. G. Guthrie Cooper of Paisley Abbey. Contrasting the attitude towards operations in almost recent times, to that of to-day, in a humorous description of his own experience, Dr. Cooper went on to speak of the honourable position to which the nursing profession has attained. But the higher the honour, the greater were their responsibilities, service to the point of sacrifice, was demanded of them. In wartime, a chaplain had said to him: "How can I preach sacrifice to these fellows who have given up so much?" He would say to the nurses, as he had replied then: "We can make them feel that we realise the greatness of the sacrifice, and how worthy of the cause." No great thing could be carried through, without sacrificing self for something beyond the present.

Mrs. Thomas Ballantyne presented the League's prizes to Nurse Blackwood, who was first in written examination for Medical, Surgical and Practical Nursing. Nurse McKinlay, who came second, was on holiday.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mr. James Begg, and the company then had tea in the beautiful main corridor of the hospital.

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