

Miss R. E. Darbyshire, R.R.C., in a short speech, considered that three essentials were required in the making of a good Club: dignity, comfort and homeliness, that these three attributes were striking features of this Club, and paid warm tribute to Miss Steele for her untiring devotion in the interests of the Club.

At the conclusion of the Meeting, an excellent Tea was served.

The Directors are to be congratulated on the steady progress of the United Nursing Services Club.

King Edward's Hospital Fund reports further progress by the London voluntary hospitals concerning the hour for waking patients as the result of its recommendation that, unless there was some exceptional and adequate reason to the contrary, the most suitable hour was 6 o'clock.

This recommendation resulted from an inquiry held in 1931. At that time the hour of waking was earlier than 6 o'clock at 53 per cent. of the London hospitals. By 1932 the number had fallen to 31 per cent., and it has now been further reduced to 21 per cent. Calculated as a percentage of the number of patients the results are still more satisfactory, only 15 per cent. of the total number being awakened earlier than 6.

All the hospitals which continue to have an earlier hour than 6 o'clock give some special reason for it; and the visitors of the King's Fund will be asked to report on these reasons at the next annual inspection of these hospitals.

The report for 1934 of the Committee of the National Gardens Scheme of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing states that there was a record number of visitors to the gardens that were opened to the public in connection with the scheme, and that the record sum of £12,255 was raised, an increase of £1,148 compared with the previous year. The sum of £720—the takings at Sandringham Gardens—was received from the King.

There were 1,124 gardens and many houses of interest on view, many of them on several occasions, so that the number of openings was 1,913. The money raised is divided between the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and the nursing associations in the counties in which the gardens are opened, and is used to help in the provision of nurses to visit people in their own homes.

Flowers, the most exquisite things in the world, become more and more important in soothing the mind and in the healing of sickness.

Imagine a ward or room where sick people are tended without their beneficent beauty and sweetness.

We often forget in handling flowers how sensitive they are to touch and environment, and now they have contributed £12,255 in maintaining one of the most beneficent services in the world—the District Nurses, who go in and out of the homes of the poor with the balm of healing in their hands.

It is stated that the present supply of Sister-Tutors is insufficient to meet the demand. To registered nurses of literary tastes, and a talent for teaching, the work of a Sister-Tutor offers an attractive sphere and such nurses would be well advised to take a course of training

which will enable them to offer evidence of their capacity for such posts. The human and professional influence they are able to exert at a malleable period in the lives of future nurses is necessarily of great interest to those who desire to maintain their profession at a high level of practical and ethical efficiency.

We note that the scheme of the Public Assistance Committee of the Essex County Council to train "Assistant Nurses" for two years for the care of chronic cases, and, at the end of that time to award them special certificates and appoint them to pensionable posts, has now been modified, we presume because the Ministry of Health informed its promoters, who sought its approval, that the question of a certificate would not be subject to its approval, but to that of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. The Sub-Committee dealing with the matter has now resolved that it be recommended that the original scheme be varied, by the deletion of the words "subject to the approval of the Minister of Health," and the substitution of "special testimonial to be issued by the County Council." It is to be hoped that the promoters of the scheme will explain to the trainees that after taking this training they will in no way be advanced towards obtaining the qualification of State Registered Nurse, but will have to begin their training all over again should they wish to obtain legal status which surely must be the aspiration of young women of twenty years of age, otherwise they will be side-tracked all their lives, so far as nursing is concerned.

A link with early nineteenth century society is broken by the death of Miss Fanny Stephenson, in Norfolk, at the age of 94. Her father, Henry Frederick Stephenson, private secretary for many years to H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, son of King George III., married Lady Mary Keppel, daughter of the Earl of Albemarle; and Miss Stephenson was the last surviving child of this union.

She trained as a nurse at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, and knew Florence Nightingale.

REGISTRATION DAY.

"Registration Day," which is celebrated annually by the British College of Nurses, will be held this year on December 15th, at 39, Portland Place, W. The Cake will be cut on the beautiful Silver Salver, inscribed in memory of the late Sir Richard Barnett, the Nurses' Champion in the House of Commons of their demand for legal status.

Fourteen candles will be lit this year, we hope by nurses who loyally supported the registration movement.

Miss Isabel Macdonald, during recent research, discovered a "Florence Nightingale of the Commonwealth" and will give an address on her personality and work, which will be quite a new theme in nursing history.

THE TRAGIC DEATH OF KING ALEXANDER OF YUGOSLAVIA.

Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, President of the International Council of Nurses, has expressed her sympathy on the tragic death of King Alexander of Yugoslavia, to Miss Shiffner, the President of the Yugoslavian Graduate Nurses' Association, and has received a letter conveying the thanks of the members of the Association for sympathy "in our deep National loss and sorrow."

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