

to various funds. It now has its full complement of four delegates, as it numbers over 1,000 members on the National Council, and takes a great interest in its work, and in the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, in support of which the League generously gave a whole scholarship in 1933.

The *Review*, which since its inception has been admirably edited, contains one very sad piece of news, and it is contained in a letter to the Matron from Miss Emily F. Saunders, notifying her resignation of the Hon. Editorship of the *Review*, who thinks the duties of an Editor would be easier if she lived in London, so that the present issue is the last to have the great benefit of Miss Saunders' work. Knowing as we do how rare is the editorial flair amongst nurses, we sympathise with the *Review* Sub-Committee in their very serious loss.

Many members of the League contribute most interesting articles and letters. Most of these letters from abroad prove how wise nurses are to travel and see the world when they are young.

LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY NURSES' "JOURNAL."

The *Journal* of the Leicester Infirmary Nurses' League has for many years been of the highest standard, a veritable pattern for others to attain. Paper, printing, make up, matter, all are of the highest quality. The frontispiece for the 1934 issue shows us the ceremony of nurses planting trees in the Garden of Remembrance. Over 30 members planted trees and it is hoped they will come and watch their growth at subsequent meetings.

Miss Rogers has sent a nice bird-table for the Garden, and the present Sisters have collected and given a beautiful stone bird bath, so the birds are certainly having a welcome. Miss M. F. Hughes, in her letter to "Dear League Members," writes: "This year has been an important one for the Nursing Profession as it has seen the inauguration of the Florence Nightingale International Scholarships. It is a wonderful effort to bring all nationalities together that those who undertake this course may carry to all parts of the world the instruction received at Bedford College, London, for the furthering of nursing care of the sick in all countries. We hope that a Leicester Nurse may one day benefit by the advantages offered under this scholarship scheme."

Miss Rogers, in her letter, writes: "The future of the League is in your hands, and to you I would say 'aim high and go ahead with courage,' and may God prosper you and grant that when the time comes for you also to retire from active service, you may have the joy of happy memories."

Miss Vincent, in her letter, writes: "Some of us, looking back on our training days, must wonder how *we* managed to survive! and yet how happy most of us were, long hours and hard work notwithstanding."

Mr. C. J. Bond, C.M.G., F.R.C.S., at a League meeting last year began his interesting Address: "I want this afternoon to tell you something of what happened in the Infirmary 60 years ago." To quote from what must have been a most interesting record:

"In 1875, we had no special departments—no X-Ray Dept., no Eye Dept., no Ear, Nose and Throat Dept., no Skin Dept., no Gynaecological Dept., and no Psychotherapeutic Department.

"The out-patients were seen in two rooms, medical and surgical, in the old S.W. Wing, and as they flocked to the Infirmary they were classified by the dear old gardener, and then graded off according to medical or surgical.

"In those days the nurses' hours of duty were much longer. There were fewer facilities for recreation. Then,

there were no swimming baths, no tennis courts, and I remember quite well the old outdoor uniform—black cloak and black bonnet. The nurses looked very sedate. There was no Nurses' Home—the Nurses were housed in very small rooms in the top of the main building.

"In those days there was no superannuation allowances and no provision for old age.

"Since then wonderful changes have taken place in the outlook of a nurse's life. Now, while you are working there is a possibility of saving something for years to come.

"Going back, in the old days nurses had not nearly the same amount of anxiety regarding examinations as you have. Examinations were much more simple. Nurses worked for longer hours in the Wards and would not have stood the pressure of study and the long probationer period which nurses now undergo.

"Girls in those earlier days became nurses for love of the work. Girls in these days become nurses, many of them I am happy to believe, for love of the work, but some nowadays because they want a job, and I feel sure that in the early days there was perhaps a little more real concern for the vocation to which they were called, and love of the work, and enthusiasm."

In conclusion Mr. Bond congratulated his audience in going through their training at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and advised them to uphold the great traditions of the Hospital, and success in carrying out healthier and happier lives of the utmost service to their fellow citizens.

THE LEAGUE OF FEVER NURSES.

A Meeting of the League of Fever Nurses was held at the Royal British Nurses' Association Headquarters, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, on January 23rd at 4.30 p.m.

Miss W. P. Solomon, R.R.C., President, was in the Chair. After a considerable amount of correspondence was dealt with, and new Members were elected, the Chairman referred to the Report of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, which she had received, which included a short Report of the Florence Nightingale Advisory Committee, she mentioned this Report stated that a Scholarship of £250 had been awarded to an English student at Bedford College for the Course 1934-1935, and also that one would be awarded for 1935-1936. That the Advisory Committee had agreed (1) "That a Scheme should be organised to interest the members of the Nursing Profession in the great work of Miss Florence Nightingale in defining basic laws on which modern nursing is founded."

(2) "That a Day of Remembrances should be instituted to honour her name, when members of the Nursing Profession could unite in forms of ceremony, and each one be invited to subscribe a small sum in support of the Florence Nightingale Scholarships Fund of the National Council of Nurses.

These proposals were followed with keen interest by all present, and it was agreed that:—

(1) That a sum be subscribed from the general fund of the League of Fever Nurses.

(2) As to the best form to be employed by which nurses in the various hospitals and institutions concerned might participate in helping with subscriptions to finance the Scholarships Fund of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, it was unanimously agreed that this should be referred to the next meeting of the League of Fever Nurses to be held on February 20th.

At the close of the meeting a vote of congratulation was carried with acclamation that Miss M. Drakard, Hon. Secretary, was able to be present after her serious illness. The Meeting then terminated.

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