

present to her old and dear friend, Mrs. Bennie, a token of the esteem and honour in which she was held by members of the Western Province Branch of the Association. She did not suppose that many of those present realised how much Mrs. Bennie had done for the Association since its inception. She enumerated the various offices Mrs. Bennie had held, and said that she had performed the many duties entailed with great ability, upholding at all times, and in all places, the high standards of the Nursing Profession. For the last ten years she had acted as a representative of Registered Nurses on the South African Medical Council.

Another speaker said that at the International Congress of Nurses in Montreal (in 1929), Mrs. Bennie had pledged the Association to own and edit its own Nursing Journal, and, with true Scottish pertinacity, had held to her point until her promise was redeemed in 1935.

Mrs. Bennie expressed her heartfelt thanks to the members of the Association for the beautiful token of their affection and regard.

CRUMPSALL HOSPITAL, MANCHESTER.

On Wednesday, September 28th, the annual reunion was held. A large gathering assembled for the short Service and a Re-dedication of the Memorial Tablet for Nurses in the Great War also took place, the tablet having been removed to the entrance of the Nurses' Home from its original position in the Hospital.

A meeting was held afterwards to discuss the formation of a Crumpsall Hospital Nurses' League. This was unanimously agreed to, and a copy of the draft of the proposed constitution and by-laws was approved, and at a later date all past members will receive a copy of these and be invited to join.

After the meeting, tea was served and holiday films were shown in the Lecture Hall. Later in the evening a dance was held to which many of the guests stayed.

THE 1930 FUND FOR THE BENEFIT OF TRAINED DISTRICT NURSES.

During the year ending June 30th, 1938, the 1930 Fund has been able to make regular weekly grants to 216 nurses, many of whom have also needed extra grants to meet some emergency. In addition about 200 monetary grants in view of special need have been made to nurses not in receipt of regular assistance. It has been possible also to help many others with personal advice, gifts in kind, or by putting them in touch with individuals or Associations able to give them the assistance they required. The 1930 Fund continues to work in close and friendly co-operation with other nursing and relief organisations, and to keep in touch where necessary with Local Authorities and Government Departments. While this entails much secretarial work it has been of the greatest possible benefit in many individual cases.

Sixty-five new applications have been dealt with, and about seventy re-applications.

The accounts, which have been audited by the Honorary Auditors, Messrs. Gundry, Cole & Co., show that during the year the Committee of the Fund have disbursed the sum of £6,910 8s. 11d., £6,412 12s. of this being in the form of regular grants and £497 16s. 11d. in that of special grants, including Christmas gifts. Donations of £390 7s. 11d. were received for special cases and for the Christmas expenditure. The administrative expenses were £633 12s. 4d.

A WORD FOR THE MONTH.

The faith of those bred in freedom should be robust enough, not only to withstand any challenges, but to persist in the fulfilment of their purpose until it was won.

Mr. Anthony Eden, M.P.

FULHAM HOSPITAL.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES TO NURSES.

The distribution of prizes to the Nurses of Fulham Hospital, by Dr. Edith Summerskill, M.P., took place on Tuesday, September 27th, in the Lecture room of the Hospital.

A goodly company of Nurses past and present assembled and showed by enthusiasm their great interest in the things concerning their training school, of which they are justly proud.

The gathering was presided over by Mrs. Maya H. Latham, who was supported on the platform by the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Cecil D. Coyle; the Matron, Miss Allbutt, and others.

Mrs. Latham, in opening the proceedings, referred to the war cloud under which they were meeting and expressed her conviction that the nursing staff would gallantly meet the occasion and face bravely the sacrifices they might be called on to make. She caused some laughter by saying that she was sure their Medical Superintendent could be asked anything they desired to know, but their amusement was qualified by loud applause, only outdone by that accorded to the Matron, whom she asserted loved the nurses, and they her. She introduced Dr. Edith Summerskill, whom she said was a woman of action, not words only. They were lucky to have her with them in the world crisis at hand. She was their "Star Turn" this afternoon.

Dr. Summerskill said the crisis was a testing time, and she was sure none would desert, as no class would be needed more badly. Florence Nightingale showed what the nurses meant to humanity in its need. Now is the time to show what you are worth, she said. She first learned sympathy with the nurses in her first year as a medical student, when she used to tremble with fear at the Ward Sister. She knew, however, how necessary discipline was in their profession. She congratulated the L.C.C. in introducing the 48-hour week wherever possible under present conditions. She urged nurses to learn organisation from the medical profession which was a 100 per cent. organised, and was the strongest trades union in existence.

A nurse's life was hard, but it was satisfying, it was creative work. A hospital was really judged by the nurses. Its reputation was built up on them. Patients would perhaps know nothing of a surgeon who had performed a major operation; but the "Nurses were dears."

Dr. Coyle in a few pregnant words said he had "No doubt at all as to the morale of the Nurses," should war break out."

Mrs. Iris Brooke, Assistant Organiser to the new Guild of Nurses, seconded the Vote of Thanks to the Chairman.

The distribution of certificates and prizes followed, and tea was served in the Nurses' beautiful sitting room, which hospitably accommodated all sorts and conditions of visitors and nurses.

Such a tea too! We have been privileged to be entertained there before and own to having looked forward to a repetition of former good things. We were not disappointed! The Matron, Miss Allbutt, who radiated kindness and hospitality, was here, there and everywhere looking after her guests.

We felt it was no wonder that we heard on all sides of the happy atmosphere that was experienced by those who best knew what it meant.

We were struck by the bright faces and the trim appearance of all grades, and it made us indulge in retrospection and perhaps a little envy. Congratulations to the Training School of Fulham Hospital.

H. H.

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