

THE BIRTHDAY SALE OF GIFTS.

Despite war conditions the Members managed to make the Sale of Work a success and we are very grateful to them, for the repairs and renewals at headquarters have involved a somewhat heavy figure this year. We have, fortunately for us now, kept up our maintenance of the property well, but just before war began we had committed ourselves to heavy outside repairs, had provided the large drawing-room, with its many armchairs, with new chintzes, and then we became involved in some very heavy repairs on the lift, which must always be kept in a perfectly sound condition. The accounts have not been quite completed as we go to press, but the result of the Sale came to within the neighbourhood of £60.

"CANDLES."

In the early autumn we had to consider whether or not it would be advisable to undertake our usual Christmas benevolence through the publication of a Calendar for the coming year. This provides the medium through which we spread our very scattered Christmas hospitality for a large number of sick and aged colleagues whose means are small and whose Christmas is apt to be a somewhat lonely one. But we pictured the postman passing their door at the Christmas season and then picked up our courage. This year, too, we had the help of the interest on the sum so generously provided by Dr. Moorhead, in memory of his wife, who was a Member of the Association. At any time, however, this particular piece of work makes itself somewhat of a work of faith. It is difficult to know how many Calendars will be wanted, and all the accounts are not, as a rule, forward when we distribute the results of their sale. This year we sent out about two hundred cheques, and the following extract will perhaps tell better than in any other words what it means to those who are no longer able to follow the profession they loved. "May the great peace of Christmas be in your hearts for all the work you have put in once again to bring hope and help and love into the lives of lonely old nurses who sometimes are apt to feel that they are forgotten by all and have the feeling, when things are very difficult, that they envy the men who fell in the war in 1914 to 1918. But the touch of love your thought brings makes one feel ashamed of such a thought and encourages one to go on

and to keep a smile on one's lips." The following is characteristic of many letters: "The very thought that we are not forgotten makes Christmas cheerful."

Thus we send thanks to all who have assisted in this really very heavy piece of Christmas work and we are very grateful indeed for the generous help we have received from so many. Also we would thank those who have taken part in what might be termed the drudgery of it, particularly Miss Margaret Brown, Miss Edith Roberts and Miss Swaby-Smith; we are indeed most grateful for the work which they did day by day to provide the means for what we have referred to as our very scattered Christmas hospitality.



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS ARTHUR OF CONNAUGHT, R.R.C., S.R.N.

BEQUEST TO THE TRAINED NURSES' ANNUITY FUND.

The late Miss E. B. Slack, S.R.N., has bequeathed to the Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund the sum of £100, free of legacy duty. During her lifetime Miss Slack subscribed annually to the Fund and we deeply appreciate her thought for the members of her own profession who suffer from illness or the infirmities of age. Such a legacy indicates that her profession meant much to Miss Slack, that it was something more to her than just the means of earning a livelihood and that, indeed, she looked upon its members as belonging to a great living entity working for the well-being of mankind. Those who, perhaps, have never had opportunity to save for old age will benefit from her generous thought for them and value deeply the help she has secured to them. Her legacy, which represents, no doubt, money made by the practice of her profession, will be invested and so will continue to act beneficently within that profession in years to come.

LADY RICE-OXLEY.

It is with sincere regret that, at the moment of going to press, we have received news of the death of Lady Rice-Oxley, and the deepest sympathy has been expressed with Sir Alfred Rice-Oxley and his sons in their great sorrow. Lady Rice-Oxley and Sir Alfred have been frequent visitors at the Club, and we all feel that we have lost a real friend in this gracious lady. She has been a personality esteemed and beloved in the Royal Borough of Kensington.

194, Queen's Gate,
London, S.W.7.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)