Annual Reports

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Report of the Fifth Year

of the

GUILD OF HELP

of the After Care Association for poor persons discharged recovered from Asylums for the Insane.

1912

GUILD OF HELP

OF THE

AFTER CARE ASSOCIATION FOR POOR PERSONS DISCHARGED RECOVERED FROM ASYLUMS FOR THE INSANE.

THE "After Care Association" was formed in 1879 by the late Rev. H. Hawkins, who for some time was Chaplain to the Sussex County Asylum at Hayward's Heath, and afterwards, for many years, of the London County Asylum, Colney Hatch. The Association began active work in 1886; the first Earl of Shaftesbury, who was at that time Chairman of the Commissioners in Lunacy, being President, the late Dr. Hack Tuke the first Chairman.

The object of the Association is to facilitate the re-admission into social life of poor persons discharged recovered from Asylums for the Insane :

1. By obtaining for them, when needful, an interval of change of air and scene, often so beneficial on recovery from ordinary illness. By (a) boarding them out, when thought desirable, in families, in the country, under proper care, and (b) by placing them in various institutions in

3

London, and other large towns, until work can be found for them.

4

2. By finding them suitable employment.

3. By giving them grants of money towards maintenance while seeking work, by providing clothing or by procuring tools when occupation is found.

Of the large number of men and women of various callings and conditions of life in asylums in Great Britain many are discharged in the course of the year recovered. They are mostly very poor, and some are friendless, but many are anxious to earn their own living, and are often capable of doing so if a helping hand is offered to them.

With the view of making this work more widely known, and obtaining for it additional support, a Guild of Help, *in connection with the Association*, has been formed.

Each member of this Guild pays a small subscription, and undertakes in addition to give annually some further help, either in kind or activity. Members who pay a larger subscription are exempt from the latter condition.

The following are examples of the kind of help needed, amongst which members may choose annually, but they are by no means limited to this list, nor to the same sort of work every year, and offers of any other variety of help will be gladly considered by the Committee:

1. To present :

(a) Two new adult garments every year.

5

(b) A reasonable number of old garments clean and mended.

- (c) Travelling bags or trunks, which, though shabby, are still fit for use.
- (d) Fancy articles suitable for sale.
- (e) Any articles useful in equipping men or women suitably for daily life and work.

2. To give help by :

- (a) Lending drawing-rooms for meetings and sales of work.
- (b) Getting up entertainments, as concerts theatricals, etc.
- (c) Finding new members for the Guild, or new subscribers to the Association.
- (d) Collecting money for the Guild.
- (e) Entertaining those under the care of the Association on their days out, by asking them to tea, taking them to suitable places of entertainment or interesting sights.
- (f) By suggesting to the Central Council, Homes in their neighbourhood suitable for convalescents.
- (g) By undertaking to inspect from time to time these or other Homes near them.

With this great variety of work to choose from, any of which will be most gratefully accepted, it is hoped that a very large number will feel able to join this Guild, in which, whilst doing work congenial to themselves, they will be assisting in a very real manner many who stand urgently in need of practical sympathy and help. Further information about the Guild will gladly be given by any member of the Managing Committee whose names and addresses are given below :

6

Mrs. BICKERTON,

17, Harley House,Regent's Park. Mrs. Brodie,

12, Fellows Road, Hampstead. Mrs. Coupland,

16, Queen Anne Street, W. Mrs. Cadman,

2, Linden Gardens, W.

Mrs. Cole,

25, Upper Berkeley Street, W. Mrs. Halliburton,

Church Cottage. 17, Marylebone Road, N.W.

Mrs. IRONSIDE-BRUCE (Hon. Secretary), 10, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W. Mrs. STEEVES,

9, Cavendish Square, W.

Miss Helen Webb, M.B. (Treasurer), 14, Nottingham Place, W.

N.B.—Subscriptions and Donations to be sent to Miss HELEN WEBE, M.B., 14, Nottingham Place, W. Parcels of clothes and other communications to be sent to Mrs. IRONSIDE-BRUCE, 10, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square.

RULES.

7

I. The name is to be "The Guild of Help of the After Care Association for poor persons discharged recovered from Asylums for the Insane."

2. An annual subscription of 2s. 6d. qualifies for membership. All subscribers of less than tos. must undertake to give also some other help, in kind or activity, during the year.

3. Subscriptions become due in January of each year.

4. The Guild is managed by a Committee of about seven members, of whom three will form a quorum. Not more than three members of the Executive Council of the Association can sit on the Guild Committee at any one time. The Committee can make its own Bye-Laws, provided they do not interfere with the Rules of the Association.

5. The Guild Committee is regarded as a Sub-Committee to the Executive Council, without the confirmation of which no important steps can be taken

6. The Chairman or Secretary of the Guild will give receipts for money received and will hand over the same to the Secretary of the Executive Council from time to time, from whom she will receive a receipt *en bloc.*

7. All the Rules of the After Care Association relative to subscriptions apply to members of the Guild

8. An Annual Meeting of the Guild will be held each year.

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REPORT.

8

THE last Annual Meeting was held on the 14th November, 1911, at 16, Queen Anne Street, by the kindness of Dr. and Mrs. Coupland. Dr. Coupland occupied the chair, and Professor Halliburton and others addressed the Meeting. Disappointment was felt at the absence of Dr. Robert Jones, who had promised to speak, but was unavoidably prevented from doing so.

The Committee in presenting their Report have to confess that all their efforts, since the last Annual Meeting, have been concentrated on a single undertaking, the Café Chantant and Model Market.

This entertainment was held on Thursday, October 24th, at Surrey House, Marble Arch, which, by the kindness of Lady Battersea, was placed at the disposal of the Guild. The beautiful carved oak of the fine ballroom made a most effective background for the prettily decorated stalls, which were well filled through the generosity of many kind friends, and the attendance being remarkably good, their contents rapidly disappeared. In the front drawing room, numerous little tea tables were tastefully set out, and nearly 300 people enjoyed their tea whilst listening to an 9

excellent concert, to which the following distinguished artistes gave their services :--

Miss Jessie Airey. Miss Eileen Boyd. Miss Eleanor Davies. Miss Dorothy Dymond. Mr. Hilliard Davies. Miss Natalie Dawson. Miss Lydia John. Mrs. Greer. Miss Helen Mott. Miss Mabel Moss. Miss D. Oldroyd. Mr. Charles Roff. Miss Gertrude Steeves. Miss Dorothea Webb.

The proceeds of the Café Chantant and Model Market amounted to over \pounds_{155} ; and the Committee take this opportunity of most cordially thanking all who contributed to the success of their undertaking. They also wish gratefully to acknowledge the parcels of good and useful clothing, etc., sent by members of the Guild.

From the very nature of the work of the After Care Association, which is, to a great extent, expert in character, it is not easy for the members of the Guild to give other than material help. We wish, however, that we could make clear to everyone how much this really means. To be of any use, the work of the Association is necessarily of an expensive kind. The investigation of the individual cases is long and 10

troublesome, and, in order to prepare again for life, those who have just emerged from the protection of an Asylum, a far longer period of convalescence is needed than after the majority of illnesses of other kinds. Bearing this in mind, and all that it implies, will not our members exert themselves to interest an everwidening circle in this sadly needed work?

If anyone will at any time, gather together, in their drawing-room, a handful of their own friends, the Guild will gladly send speakers to explain the work of the Association.

SUBSCRIPTIONS, ETC., FOR 1912.

£ s. d.

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Andrew, Miss					2	6	
Auldjo, Miss					10	0	
Beldam, Mrs. G. V	V.				10	0	
Benson, Mrs. Geor	rge				2	6	
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Boole, Mrs.					5	0	
Brodie, Mrs.					2	6	
Bruce, Mrs. Ironsi	de- (paid l	last year)					
Cadman, Mrs.					5	0	
Chadburn, Dr. Ma	ud M.				2	6	
Cheyne, Lady					5	0	
Clanson-Thue, Mi	SS				10	0	
Clapham, Mrs.					5	0	
Colbeck, Mrs.					5	0	
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Colman, Mrs., M.I).				10	0	
Cooke, Mrs. Marri	ot				2	6	
Coupland, Mrs.					2	6	
Cramp, Miss Viola				1	0	0	

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Dawson, Miss G		£	s.	a. 6	
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Franklin, The Hon. Mrs.	 		10	0	
Forbes, Mrs. Thomas	 		10	0	
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Gibbes, Mrs. (paid last year)					
Glover, Mrs. Howard	 	I	I	0	
Grace, Mrs	 		5	0	
Greaves, Mrs	 	I	0	0	
Halliburton, Dr			-	-	
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Hamilton, Miss J	 		10	0	
Hastie, Miss	 		10	0	
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High, Mrs. George M.	 		2	6	
Howard, Mrs	 		3	0	
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Morrison, Miss M. S.	 		2	6	
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	Ransom, Rev.			 2	6	
	Russell, Miss T. R.			 2	6	
	Sainsbury, Mrs.			2	6	
	Sainsbury, Miss			 2	6	
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	Scott, Miss Isabell	••••				
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	Smith, Mrs. Percy			 10	0	
	Steeves, Mrs. Walt			 5	0	
	Scott, Miss Erskin			 2	6	
	Stilwell, Mrs.			 2	6	
	Stirling, Mrs.			 2	6	
	Scutt, Miss			 12	6	
1	Thomas, Miss A. E	C.		 2	6	
	Tuke, Mrs.			 2	б	
	Tuke-Tylor, Miss			 2	6	
	Turnbull, Dr. Jane			 10	б.	
	Urmson, Mrs.			 2	6	
	Vulliamy, Miss			 2	6	
	Waterfield, Mrs.			 II	0	
	Watson, Mrs.			 10	0	

White, Mrs. J. F. White, Miss D. E.				2	
White, Miss M. C.				2 2	6 6
White, Miss Selina			 I	0	0
			37	8	10
Café Chantant and	Model	Market	 155	8	6
		Total	£ 192	17	4

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