

# SUTHERLAND RED CROSS SOCIETY

## MUNIFICENT GIFT FROM MRS CARNEGIE OF SKIBO.

The County Committee of the Sutherland Branch of the British Red Cross Society met in the West End Hall, Golspie yesterday, Colonel Morrison M.V.O., V.D., Vice-Lieutenant of the County, presiding. A letter of apology was read from Mr Egerton, Naviedale.

Dr MacLachlan, honorary secretary, said that he had pleasure in reporting that Mr J. H. Arthur, solicitor, Dornoch, had agreed to act as honorary treasurer of the Branch, and Mr H. M. Mackay, solicitor, Dornoch, has consented to become honorary auditor. (Applause.)

## NURSING APPOINTMENTS.

The Honorary Secretary also intimated that two appointments had been made from the applicants in response to the appeal which had appeared in the newspaper towards the end of last year. Miss Gunn, Durness, and Miss Doris Peters, Dornoch, had received very important appointments in military hospitals. Probably more had been accepted, but up to date he had received no notice to that effect. He regretted that more appointments had not been made from Sutherland, but this was due to the response made throughout the country. There were many more applications than there were vacancies for. Several ladies made special appeals to him for employment under the Society. He only sent the applications forward when he received them; the adjudication lay with the headquarter's of the Society and not with him.

## COUNTY COLLECTIONS.

They would remember that at their last meeting it was unanimously resolved to appeal at a later date to work parties and others in the county for money or comfort for Red Cross purposes. The time had not been opportune to do so, but it was intended to carry out the instructions next month. The call for comforts or money for the sick and wounded had the first claim on their consideration, and he had no doubt that the response would be hearty from all parts of the county.

## BRANCHES IN THE COUNTY

The County Committee had been registered under the War Charities Act, 1916 and he had granted permits to carry on work under the auspices of the County Committee at Dornoch, Clashmore, Ross hall, and Assynt.

## CONVENERS OF WORK PARTIES.

Dr MacLachlan moved that Conveners of Red Cross Work Parties be appointed members of the County Committee. This would make it more representative and bring the various parts of the county directly into touch with each other.

The suggestion was agreed to.

## "OUR FLAG DAY."

It was reported that the result of "Our Flag Day" held on 2nd December last and subsequent days had not been received from headquarters yet. The Organising Secretary had written to Dr MacLachlan on the 12th inst., stating that "our treasurers are now busy getting the statements completed, and I am sure that they will lose no time in letting you know exactly how much money has been collected in your county." Dr MacLachlan said he would publish the lists in the local papers as soon as they were received. On the last Flag Day they had collected a total of £249 8s 5d, and Dr MacLachlan said he would not be surprised if the result of "Our Day" would exceed that sum.

## ORTHOPAEDIC APPEAL.

A letter was read from Mr William Smith, honorary secretary and treasurer of the Orthopaedic Hospital, Oldmill, Aberdeen, appealing for funds in aid of this deserving object. This hospital is worked entirely on behalf of disabled soldiers requiring treatment for stiff joints, restoring old injuries, scars, etc. The treatment would in all probability be a long one. Soldiers from this district for treatment in these cases will be sent to Oldmill, Aberdeen. The appeal was for a sum of not less than £3000, and Dr MacLachlan was sure Sutherland would respond well to it. He had written on his own responsibility to Mr Smith to say that collections for the Red Cross and other purposes had been made recently, and at present everyone was scraping together for the War Loan. He suggested that no appeal should be made till the month of April, as it seemed to him to be more suitable then. This was approved of.

## CONCERT FOR RED CROSS FUNDS.

Dr MacLachlan read a letter from Mrs Mundell, Dalchork, dated 22nd January, 1917, asking for a permit to hold a concert at Lairg on 2nd February on behalf of the fund for Red Cross purposes in the county. He had written to Mrs Mundell thanking her for her great kindness in initiating the scheme and willingly granted her a permit to do so. He hoped other districts would act in a similar way for Red Cross purposes.

The Committee endorsed the action of the Honorary Secretary.

## GIFT OF ONE THOUSAND POUNDS.

Dr MacLachlan intimated that Mr Hardie, factor for Skibo Estate, had received £1000 from Mrs Carnegie for the purchase of a motor ambulance car for use at the front. He had hoped to show them a photograph of the car, but, unfortunately it had not arrived yet. The car was built on the latest lines, thoroughly equipped and efficient for service. It was a very suitable gift which they would much appreciate. The ambulance car would be known as Skibo Castle Car. (Applause.)