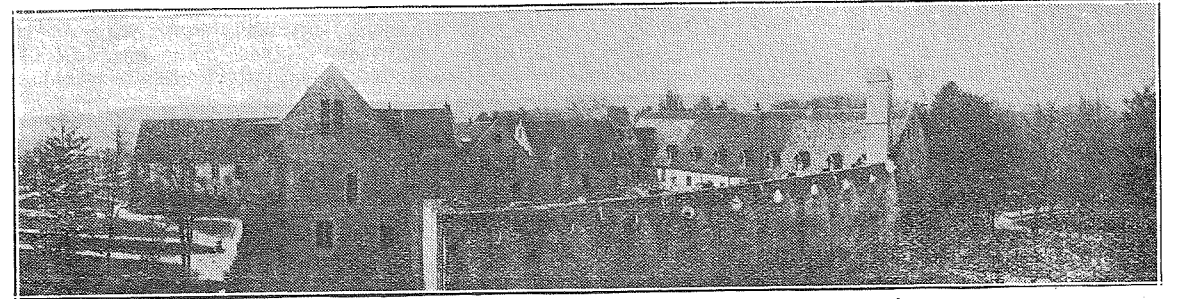


Royaumont News-Letter



JANUARY 1954

No. 17

Object of the Association: To maintain and strengthen our war-time comradeship.

Subscription: Half-a-crown per annum, due **January 1st**, for the year.

President: Miss Ruth Nicholson, M.S.

Vice-President: Lady Sanderson.

Chairman: Mrs. Alison, 14 Abingdon Court, Kensington, London, W.8.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Rachel Middleton, 90 Kensington Park Road, London, W.11.

Hon. Treasurer: Lady Hills, 37 Cottesmore Court, Kensington, London, W.8.

Hon. Editor: Miss C. F. N. Mackay, 15 Upper Cheyne Row, Chelsea, London, S.W.3.

Editorial

Looking back on 1953 most of us have some interesting or exciting memories of the Coronation, and all its wonderful festivities. It certainly was exciting to be in London at the time. Apart from Royaumontites who live here, there were many who came from far and wide to see the sights; even seeing a friend off at 6 a.m. for the Abbey in all the splendour required for the occasion, on that cold June morning, had its compensations, it was so unlike anything that had ever happened before.

We have been lucky to get Mrs. Alison as our Chairman in place of Smieton who retired the year before last. Since then we have had no Chairman, and although there is not a great deal to do now it is a tremendous help to our Hon. Secretary to have someone to consult and take the chair at our meetings. These meetings now consist chiefly in arranging the Reunion, considering our finance, and any suggestions members may make from time to time. We occasionally get hot and bothered over mere trifles; someone's name has been omitted or wrongly spelt, so off with the Editor's head, or

someone's pet theory has been reduced to a small para. in the News-Letter; but note that in this number a member has been given full scope to state her views on the origin of the Emergency Loan Fund, so this time perhaps the Editor may be reprieved!

Members will be sorry to hear of the death of "Little Ross" (Mrs. McGregor), who died last Easter after having been ill for some months; her son with whom she lived rang up Merrylees to tell her the sad news.

Our thanks are due to Carter and to Middleton for their work in preparing the new list of Royaumont members which goes out with this number. They have not been able to find Dr. Mary Adams's address: if any member knows it perhaps they will kindly send it to Carter (Lady Hills).

We also acknowledge with thanks donations to the Association in 1953, from Miss Nicholson, Dr. Martland, Sister Rose Morris, Jackson, Anderson (A. L.), and Mackay.

On another page we print an account of a visit to Royaumont by M. Fairlie which will interest all members. Some of us may perhaps feel that it is wiser not to revisit the Abbaye where we can no

longer wander about at will. But they, we fancy, will be in the minority, and to anyone who does go on this pilgrimage and takes the trouble to write and tell us about it we are most grateful. Fairlie also kindly sent two photographs, one of the plaque which owing to its position is difficult to photograph. Anyone who would like to see the photographs can do so by applying to the Editor.

Fairlie went out to Royaumont in the early days, when the night orderlies then only two in number fed off cold pudding, but in the mornings were able to drive about the woods in a strange looking low pony chaise. A pony chaise lent to them *pour rien* through some strange wire-pullings with M. le Directeur and a lady in Asnieres.

Please collect all the news you can of members this new year which we hope will be a happy one for everybody.

Letter from our President

Upalong,
Lustleigh,
South Devon.
January 12, 1954.

My Dear Friends,

Yet another year has gone and our News-Letter is gathering information from far and wide. It was a great pleasure to see so many at the Reunion in October and I think very wonderful to be able to muster them after thirty-four years, especially as many have left England and made homes abroad. It is of course due to our enthusiastic officials, past and present, who keep us together, and very much to the Editors of the News-Letter, also past and present, who keep up the interest and report news from many parts of the world.

Morgan arranged a very good lunch at the W.V.S. Club and judging by the roar of agreement when I asked if we should ask her to do the same this year, I concluded everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Among some of the wanderers who returned to the fold was Mrs. Alison, who has kindly consented to be Chairman of the Association, so we were doubly glad to see her.

Living here in the heart of the country not much happens, but last year I had two good journeys. In April my friend Muriel Duvall and my sister Nora and I flew to Italy. We went by the Sabena line and the Belgian stewards and stewardess spent most of the time feeding us. I had never travelled by air before so it was all very exciting and novel and much easier and more comfortable than I expected. We had to change at Brussels where we had a free drink while waiting for the Milan plane, a very large new Douglas four-engined machine holding seventy-two. Luckily it was a clear day and flying over the Alps and seeing all the snowclad heights was a magnificent sight. We had time to see the Cathedral at Milan and a little of the City before getting a

train to Florence. This was the slowest part of the journey as the travel agents had made a mistake about the train and we had a slow local instead of the International express. However, it was a good opportunity for seeing the country and getting some information from our Italian fellow travellers. Florence came up to all expectations, in fact exceeded them. We had only seven nights there as we were on the £25 allowance and it would not run to longer. Visits to the Galleries and seeing so many well-known pictures in the original, the Convent of St. Marco with the wonderful Fra Angelicos, numerous churches with marvellous frescoes, especially the Giotto's in the Church of Santa Croce, of the Michelangelo sculptures in the Medici Chapel filled our days. Wandering about the streets, every turn seemed to bring some building of beauty and interest. I had no idea any city could be so packed with wonders and luckily very little war damage had been done. We saw some of the surrounding country too, as our hotel was situated on the banks of the Arno and from the windows the hills surrounding Florence looked lovely at all times, and the old Ponte Vecchio, the most picturesque bridge, was more or less intact though all the others had been destroyed by the Germans in their retreat. Friends here had told us to go out to the hill city of Fiesole and on a very hot day we mounted up in a trolley car and had a grand view of the whole of Florence and the surrounding country, and a welcome tea on a wisteria-covered loggia. Another lovely excursion was to the Piazzzo Michelangelo on the left bank of the river with another fine view of Florence from the south, and a bronze reproduction of the David (we saw the original too, of course, in a museum) and two beautiful churches. Unluckily it was impossible to see more as we had planned to have two nights in Siena. There we went in a motor-coach on a Sunday and very soon after leaving Florence had to turn off the main Rome road as there was a motor race and all traffic diverted. It gave us the opportunity of seeing the wild, hilly country with only a very few small farms, juniper bushes and cypresses. The snag was that when we got within three miles of Siena we were held up entirely as we came to the main road again. After much talk and exploration of roads by one of the drivers on a motor-bike we were eventually taken by narrow farm roads and even through farm yards to Siena, about two hours late. The two men on the coach were extremely careful, one getting out at all the uncertain bits to see if there was room, and driving with great skill and care.

Siena is a very old city on a hill, very narrow streets, no buses or cars or any conveyance except taxis possible. The famous Campo, a large paved sloping space where the "Palio," a horse race in medieval costume, is held in July and August, forms the centre of the city and round it is the beautiful Town Hall with a tall Bell Tower. It is very striking, being stone and lovely red brick. In other parts of the town are many other old buildings mostly

Gothic. Most of the pictures are very old and of the Siene school. There is a huge Cathedral faced with different coloured marbles.

We returned to Florence by the main road with an excellent surface but the scenery not nearly so interesting.

The flight back to London Airport next day was uneventful except that we had an anxious hour in the assembling centre when we were told our names were not on the list and the plane was full. However, we were sent off in the buses and while in the Customs I heard my name being called out loudly and was told I was wanted by the police. All was well, seats had been found, but I decided if ever I fly again I shall make sure that my return seat is certain.

My other journey was much more ordinary, as after the Reunion and five days in Town with "Nicky," I joined Muriel Duvall at Ware and we motored up to Newcastle, stopping at Lincoln and near Pickering. We stayed with Nicky and another sister in Newcastle and then returned via the Midlands staying again with friends at Ashby-de-la-Zouche, Kegworth, near Nottingham and Stow-on-the-Wold.

Every good wish to you all for 1954.

Yours affectionately,

RUTH NICHOLSON.

The London Reunion

The Annual General Meeting and a Luncheon were held again at the W.V.S. Club in Cadogan Square, by kind arrangement with Morgan, on Friday, October 9, 1953.

On this occasion we had a room on the ground floor where after lunch the tables were quickly removed giving us plenty of room to move about and talk to friends. The lunch was very good, and the noise we made terrific. There were thirty-six members present which is slightly more than last year. Our grateful thanks are due to Morgan and Middleton who very kindly supplied us with delicious fruit cup *spécialité de la maison!*

We were delighted to have Miss Nicholson with us again as well as Dr. Savill, Dr. Hancock and Mrs. Alison. Others present were: Peters, Salway, Collum, Tozer, Tollit, Stewart, Smieton, Middleton, Moffat, Large, Carter, Churchill, Banks, Miller, Brock, Parkinson, Simonsen, Don (and friend), Oliver, Nicky, Ramsay-Smith, Burrard, Merrylees, Butler, Young, Berry, Thorne, Macfie, Morgan, Hodgson and Mackay.

Telegrams of good wishes and regrets at not being present were read from: Buckley, Wilson, Rolt, hers was a greetings telegram and gaily decorated, and Glossop.

At the General Meeting Mrs. Alison, who kindly agreed to act, was unanimously elected Chairman, and the Committee were re-elected en bloc, Morgan undertaking to act as our Dinner Secretary again. Statements of the accounts were read by the Hon. Treasurer, Carter, Middleton, Hon. Secretary, and by Morgan, and an appeal was made by the Editor to members to support the Royaumont News-Letter with every available news they could get hold of.

Perhaps because it was Coronation year we were all in good spirits, everyone enjoyed themselves, and there were small parties afterwards given by Oliver and Mackay. Thanks are due to Morgan for arranging everything so well.

(Editor)

Royaumont Re-Visited 1953

It was on a bright May day this year that we drove out to the Abbaye de Royaumont from Paris. It is just thirty-eight years since I saw the lovely old place. It was interesting to see how much I remembered of the small part that is shown to the public, after all these years.

The Abbaye is now an Ancient Monument, and most of the building is used as a students week-end hostel, where they can come for quiet study.

One parks the car by the farm, and enters the grounds by that gate, paying for tickets from Madam, at the lodge, and picking up a female guide, unfortunately she was so young, that the S.W.H. was only history. She saw our cameras and said they were forbidden. I suppose it spoils the postcard trade, but we pocketed ours and carried on.

We entered the building by the East door into the hall, which now has a division down the middle which cuts off the stair, and makes that part a private entrance hall for the students. We walked through the hall to the cloisters, but before doing so, examined the Plaque, placed at the right-hand side of the door leading to the cloisters. The Plaque is of stone let in flush with the wall, with the lettering deeply cut. The hall is so dark, it is almost impossible to take a photo, especially as I had to take it on the sly, but more about that later.

The only part of the inside of the Abbey shown to visitors is the Chapel, the Refectory, and Kitchen, the cloisters look much the same. As I walked round, I thought of the still Winter nights long ago, when you and I used to pace up and down, when on night duty, enjoying the peace and quiet.

The lovely refectory has been made into the student's concert hall, with a huge organ, which blocks our old passage way, from the hall to the kitchen. The kitchen is completely transformed and restored,

with large steel-framed windows; there are some interesting old exhibits including a stone statue of St. Louis.

While the guide was busy with the visitors, I went back to the hall to try to get a photo of the plaque, we opened all the doors to let in more light, but even then there was not enough, the instantaneous exposure being a failure. There was no piece of furniture on which to rest my camera for a time exposure, but I took one holding the camera; it has just come out, unfortunately the lettering is shaky. There was no picture postcard of it.

On the door of my old Ward, there was a notice, "Library, private," but I boldly walked in, stood by the door looking round. What a lovely room it is, with its pillars, and the walls all lined with books in oak shelves.

I then crossed the hall and tried to follow a student into the inner hall, but the door was firmly closed in my face.

I was disappointed how little of the Abbey is shown to the public, and I longed to get upstairs, and look at our rooms, and the other Wards. Evidently the students are the first consideration, and occupy that floor.

M. Gouin must have given instructions that the Chateau and grounds are kept strictly private, as whenever I attempted to revisit that part of the grounds, I was turned back by an old woman living on the estate, who I think was a cleaner in our day, she remembered being treated by the doctors, I suppose in the old out-patient department. She was the only 1914 survivor that I came across.

On our way to Royaumont we passed Viarmes Station, and I remembered the cold December day we arrived there, carrying our own mattresses.

We also visited Asnieres church and although I went there to Mass Sunday after Sunday I had forgotten what a little gem of architecture it is, sad to say, now falling into decay. The village too has deteriorated since we knew it.

Later in the day, we drove through the forest to Chantilly, where we had tea with the most delicious meringues.

So ended a happy day, full of memories.

From

M. FAIRLIE.

Warren sends the following Letter

Broomfield,
Callander,
Perthshire.
July 11, 1953.

Dear Royaumontites,

An incident of remarkable interest has just happened to me and I am sure it will interest all of you and probably some particularly.

On July 7 my lawyer (who is also my nephew) telephoned to say that he had had a message from the French Consul in Glasgow to the effect that there was a Frenchman touring with the French Overseas and Navy League who wanted to see me. It turned out that Lord Inverclyde, with whom the party had dined, had given him my name as one of the nurses at the S.W. Hospital. This man's name is Desfeuilles and he was at Royaumont in 1917 for six months and was operated on by Miss Ivens and nursed by big Murray. I had not known him as I had left by that time to go to Rouen.

After chasing him by telephone up and down Scotland and making two or three unsuccessful attempts at a meeting place I finally managed to catch the party on their way back to Glasgow from Inverness, and saw them in Stirling on the evening of the 8th. We had a most interesting "pow-wow" and exchanged news and reminiscences. I was very sorry that Mrs. Gray (Simpson) was not able to go with me as she had been at Royaumont in his day. I had, of course, to tell him that both Miss Ivens and Murray were dead.

I don't know what his profession is, but he is obviously a man of some standing and a gentleman.

This is the second time in thirteen months that I have come across an old Royaumont patient. In June of last year I met a M. Heuriot at a luncheon in Edinburgh in connection with the Franco-Scottish Society. He had at a conference that same morning spoken of having been at Royaumont and of "les gentilles infirmières" little thinking that he was going to meet one at luncheon.

I think those two incidents should make us feel very proud, particularly in the case of M. Desfeuilles, who took so much trouble in searching us out after thirty-six years in order to show his gratitude again. I was greatly touched by his sincere feelings of interest and thanked him very much on behalf of us all. One of the party took a photograph of us together which I trust will arouse no twinge of jealousy in any of you who remember him and knew him!

Good luck to you all.

From WARREN ("Mees Piano").

The Emergency Loan Fund

By V. C. C. COLLUM

In our last issue it was mistakenly stated that this Fund started as a "fund for endowing a bed in hospital." This is not the case. Our Reunion is older by two years than the Association. The Association, after the scheme for starting it had been circularised in print to all known Old Royaumontites in 1920 through the generosity of the late Dr. Elizabeth Courtauld in financing its publication,

came into being in 1923, after being approved at the Second Annual Dinner. It had three objects: a self-governing body that could speak and act in the name of subscribing Old Royaumontites; a News-Letter; and the starting of an Emergency Loan Fund—described in No. 1 issue of the News-Letter, September, 1923, which also carried the Constitution of the Association. It was agreed that no official appeal to Old Royaumontites for money to start the Fund should be put out until Old Royaumontites had collected the £500 for the endowment of a Royaumont Memorial Bed to be presented to Miss Ivens for the maternity hospital in which she was interested in Liverpool. At the Second Annual General Meeting of the Association the Committee was empowered to start collecting for the Emergency Loan Fund. In the News-Letter for October, 1926 (No. VI), it was announced that a member had given £50 to start the Loan Fund and that it was hoped that at the next General Meeting it might be announced that this sum had been doubled. This was done at the next Dinner. The Loan Fund was established as a Trust, of which Miss Ivens, as President of the Association, should be Principal Trustee, with the Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer of the Association as her advisers. Miss Ivens at first acted as her own accountant, but later asked the Association's Committee to appoint an Hon. Treasurer to keep the account for her. On her death, since the Trust's principal trustee was "the President of the Association," Miss Nicholson automatically succeeded to the Trusteeship. It happens now, for the first time, that the Honorary Treasurer of the Trust Fund, who was an elected member of the committee of the Association, was subsequently elected to the office of Honorary Secretary of the Association, but this in no way alters the fact that the control of the Trust Fund is solely in the hands of the "principal"—and actually the sole—Trustee. By the terms of the original capital gift, no one knows the name of any applicant to or recipient of a loan except the Old Royaumontite recommending her to the Trustee for a loan, and the two officers of the Association acting as her advisers, being those best qualified to report on the circumstances of the proposed beneficiary. Beneficiaries were not limited to subscribing members of the Association. Any "Old Royaumontite" whose emergency qualifies her for assistance can be helped. But those who make the provision of such help possible, by their donations to the Fund, are her "old comrades" because it is they who go on adding to the initial £50—then £100—capital of the Loan Trust.

We hope that these particulars, supplied by one of the two co-founders of the Trust Fund (the other being the late Dr. Elizabeth Courtauld) will make it

clear that the Association as such has no power to alienate the Fund's resources to other purposes. On more than one occasion members of the Association, ignorant of how the Trust came into being, have made such proposals, and the Committee of the Association has deemed it desirable that the matter should be debated at an annual general meeting—mainly with the purpose of clarifying the issue. Since only a very small proportion of our membership can attend annual meetings it was considered advisable that the foregoing statement should be printed in the News-Letter.

To conclude, the Fund has helped fourteen Old Royaumontites, since it was inaugurated—and, all told, those who served at Royaumont and Villers Coterets numbered not more than 500 persons, of whom many served but for six months. Among these fourteen grants were outright gifts made to three sick and dying members (including an early Royaumont matron) to enable them to pass their last days in comfort. Perhaps we might lift a corner of the veil of secrecy for this once to report that, at the Annual Reunion Luncheon last October, an Honorary member, Yvonne Brock (an old friend of the late Dr. Wilson, who was sent for a while from Paris by Mme. Curie to the Royaumont X-ray department), who, for years past, has been an intimate friend and neighbour of Cicely Hamilton, in Chelsea, rose to her feet to tell assembled members how greatly the Loan Fund's gift—recommended by the Association's committee—to our beloved Vice-President had eased her last months, and how grateful our Vice-President had been to the old comrades whose generosity had made this possible. Despite her literary and dramatic fame, Cicely Hamilton was largely dependent in her later years on a Civil List pension of £100 a year. Could a more eloquent argument than this be adduced for continued and generous donations to this kindly and useful Trust Fund established by Old Royaumontites for the assistance of their comrades in "emergency"?

Royaumont Emergency Help Fund

OCTOBER, 1953

One grant has been made from the Fund this year and the balance stands at £277 5s. 3d.

R. MIDDLETON (Secretary).

As reported at General Meeting, October 9.

From Morgan (Dinner Secretary)

<i>Debit</i>	£ s. d.	<i>Credit</i>	£ s. d.
Printing (1,000 notices)	2 2 0	Received from Simonson	5 0 5
Stamps	1 1 0	Dinner tickets and gifts	16 5 0
W.V.S. Club Lunch	12 7 0		
Tip	1 0 0		
MacNaughton's subscription for 3 years subtracted from her donation of £2 2s.	7 6		
In hand	4 7 11		
	<u>£21 5 5</u>		<u>£21 5 5</u>

Statement of Accounts

Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts for Year ending December 31, 1953

<i>Debit</i>	£ s. d.	<i>Credit</i>	£ s. d.
Eastern Press, Ltd., News-Letter	17 10 10	Balance in hand, January 1, 1953	73 19 2
Postage of News-Letter	15 6	P.O. Interest for 1952	1 11 11
Stamps, Hon. Treasurer	15 0	Subscriptions	20 11 0
Balance in hand, December 31, 1953	77 17 9	Donations	17 0
	<u>£96 19 1</u>		<u>£96 19 1</u>

ANGELA HILLS, Hon Treasurer.

Hon Treasurer's Note

The Credit Total of £96 19s. 1d. includes subscriptions for future years, paid in advance, amounting to £15 15s. 10d.

From Far and Near

Adam, Sister (Mrs. Bushby) writes: "It was a delightful gathering of Royaumontites in October, for the annual lunch. I did enjoy meeting so many old friends. Tozer and I sat together, and discovered that we were both interested in handicrafts, so we went on afterwards to Olympia to see the Handicraft Exhibition. On the way out of the W.V.S. Club I picked up a very pretty bracelet which someone had dropped. I handed this in to the Receptionist in the hall. If it belonged to one of our members, I do hope she got it. . . . With kind remembrances and long may the News-Letter continue. It is a real joy to receive. I read it from cover to cover as soon as it arrives."

Adrain (Mrs. Maclagan) has sold her house in Northwood and sailed for Capetown early in December.

Anderson, A. F. (Lady Blood) writing from Mauritius to Carter says: "I hope the Association is flourishing and that I'll be able to attend the Reunion soon. My husband retires next year, and I hope 'Big Andy' will stay with us until we ourselves have to leave for good."

Anderson, A. L. had a bad time, breaking her arm twice, but according to this cutting from *The Times* is now on her way home.

Sir Hilary Blood, the Governor, and Lady Blood left Mauritius on Monday on board the S.S. Boissevain. A salute of 17 guns was fired.

Anderson, M. (Mme. Petitpierre), we hope, will be able to come across to our next Reunion. Both her daughters are now married, the younger one to Mr. Frank Laws, who comes from Fowey in Cornwall.

Bedwell, Sister sends greetings to anyone who remembers her, she is still very lame so cannot get about much.

Brock, Y., whom we were glad to see at the Royaumont luncheon, said a few words about the late Miss Cicely Hamilton. She told us how up to the time of her death Miss Hamilton was always interested to hear about Royaumontites, and remembered the old days there very clearly.

Buckley, Dr. G. L., writing to Morgan says: "I should like again to register a very strong protest against the lunch being on a Friday. Those of us who are still working would like to have an opportunity of a day when we could attend without having to pass over our duties to others." The choice of a day was carefully considered and voted on by the Committee, and as the majority of our Association members have now retired, it appeared that Friday suited the majority. Any other views about this will receive sympathetic attention, as we are anxious to have our Reunion on a day, and at a time, which suits most of us.—EDITOR.

Large, Mrs. (Wilson), sending us her new address, writes: "We have bought a sixteenth century house, it is part of one of those rambling old rectories. There are a lot of old oak beams and very high ceilings. The Snuggery is where Flamstead worked out his charts, he was the *first* Astronomer Royal appointed by Charles II. Later he quarrelled with Newton and then took Holy Orders. The garden has to be made (some job); it is a mass of high grass at the moment. I met Burrard when in Eastbourne recently. I hope to hear more of her soon."

Leng was in London last September but just missed the Luncheon. She lost her father last year and her old home in Fife has been given up, but she still has her flat in Edinburgh.

Sister Lindsay was unfortunately not able to come to the Reunion; writing to Carter she says: "I hope you had a good turn out. I wish I could have come down, but just couldn't manage it. I had a very short visit one afternoon from Muriel Wilson. She was looking well but like me decided she could not manage London."

McLeod writes from Glasgow: "Last Christmas I received a note from Dr. Henry who is in Montreal. She stated that she would be home in 1954 and could I arrange for her to meet some Royaumontites. So far I have heard nothing further, but if any members

are interested and could come to Glasgow to meet Dr. Henry I can arrange something during the period of her visit. If any members wish to be present at a small party could they please send me their names and addresses now? The expense of the actual party will not be much. I shall consult with some of the other Scottish members and details will be sent to those who have sent me their names as soon as I have some news from Dr. Henry; if she has changed her plans perhaps we could have a small gathering of members."

We know that Dr. Henry's daughter is now in England, but had not heard of her mother's proposed visit.—EDITOR.

Macnaughton (Mrs. Crowther) now has a flat in Edinburgh, having given up her house there. Writing to Morgan she says: "My dear old friend 'Kennedy' (Mrs. Clements) and her husband were with me during last year's Festival. She looked and felt so ill when here, and died in New York on her return home to Bermuda. I am sure her Royaumont friends would wish to remember her."

We had a little notice about Kennedy in the last Royaumont News-Letter, we who knew her miss her very much.—EDITOR.

McPherson, Betty (Mrs. C. R. Bruce) has not been able to come to the Reunion for two years. We hope very much to see her at the next one in October of this year.

Dr. Martland was in Italy and so unable to attend the luncheon. Writing to Morgan she says: "However, next year I may have better luck, as by then I shall have retired from work—most unwillingly, for I have a lovely job and hate to leave it, but when you become a Civil Servant you have to down tools just when you are really beginning to know how to use them. That's planning, that is."

Richmond (Mrs. Haydon) was not able to come to the Reunion although she had hoped to manage it. She has had bad luck as most of the summer she was ill, but we are glad to say she is all right now. She has a splendid part in the revival of Shaw's play *Pygmalion* at St. James's Theatre. Any Royaumontites who can do so should make a point of going to see the play.

Sister Rose-Morris writes that she was much interested in Ramsay-Smith's account of her visit to Canada where she met a friend of hers. Dr. Henry's daughter Anne, she adds, is now in London working at the University.

Sinclair, E. C. was not able to come up for the Luncheon; writing to Morgan she says: "Please remember me to any of the members who knew the 'Queen of the Scullery'."

CR0/3/23

Stewart, who was at the luncheon, has now got a little cottage in Scotland, not far from Banks and Miller. They all met not long ago. See the new list of members for their addresses.—EDITOR.

Summerhayes (Mrs. MacRae), who could not come to the Reunion, writes: "I wonder if Simms will be there as I know she is in England again. I should enjoy a supper party at the Cheval Blanc again, of omelette, chocolate mousse, and vin rouge. I remember them with relish."

Williams (Lady Smyth) came over here from Australia last May for the Coronation. She was honoured by having a seat in the Abbey where she had a wonderful view of everyone coming in and going out. Since returning (she flew back in August) she has given many talks to Australian Women's Associations about her visit here. These talks created

great interest especially amongst the older people, many of whom came from Britain and have little chance of seeing the Old Country again. "Williams' daughter came over here with her mother, she now has a little daughter of her own, so another grandmother is added to the many Royaumontites who have given "hostages to fortune."—EDITOR.

Williams, P. writes regretting she cannot be at the Reunion, and says: "Do you remember 'Little Brown' at V.C.? I met her while she was staying with friends near here. She is stone deaf but amazingly cheerful and most amusing. I see little Inglis as often as possible. She is still with her aged cousins in St. Andrews, but she can occasionally get away for a brief holiday with me." (Extract from a card to Morgan.)