

A not inconsiderable portion of the expenditure has been due to the payment of some charges in connection with the lawsuit of Barlow v. The Corporation, which accounts for the sum of £128 3s. 7d. I have estimated that the amount still due on account of this action is no less than £125, and which still remains to be paid.

In conclusion, I beg to present to you my Financial Statement from January 1st, 1896, to March 25th, 1896, showing that the sum of £302 11s. 4d. has been received, and the sum of £347 7s. 10d. has been disbursed."

Dr. BEDFORD FENWICK objected to the two obvious inaccuracies in the Report. First, the statement that the receipts and expenditure were "appended in detail," whereas there was no such appendix; and, secondly, the statement that the recent lawsuit was "Barlow v. The Corporation." It was, of course, Barlow v. Thorne and others. Miss Barlow only took proceedings against those who had threatened to injure her, not against the Corporation.

The CHAIRMAN accepted these corrections to the Report.

Dr. FENWICK asked for the Balance at the Bank on March 31st.

Mr. LANGTON replied that on March 25th the Balance was £77; £125 being owing to the lawyers alone. The Report was adopted.

Mr. FARDON then read the

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

"The Executive Committee report that 45 Nurses have registered since the last meeting of the Council, including the first male nurse registered by the Association, 37 have been elected members, two members have died, and 11 have withdrawn.

The names of 69 members have been removed from the roll, their subscriptions being in some cases four, five, or even six years in arrears.

At the request of the British Medical Association, two Delegates were appointed by the Executive Committee to attend a Conference on 14th January, summoned to consider the question of the State Registration of Nurses. The opinion of the majority of those attending the Conference appeared to be unfavourable to the movement for securing State Registration at present.

The Special General Meeting summoned by command of Her Royal Highness the President was duly held on January 28th, and a report of the proceedings has been sent to the members.

The decision arrived at by the Council at their last meeting, as to the period of training to be required in future, as qualifying for membership and registration, will come into operation on the 1st of next October. The regulation is as follows:—

'That all Nurses who commence their training on and after October 1st, 1896, will be required to conform to the resolution of the Council that the training must be in Hospitals containing not less than forty beds.'

The Committee recommend that training in Hospitals, other than those in Her Majesty's dominions, be not recognised as qualifying for registration.

The Sub-Committee for the recasting of the bye-laws has been appointed; it is hoped that they will be able to present an early report.

It is proposed to hold the Annual Meeting in London, in July next. The Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital has most kindly offered to place the Great Hall of St. Bartholomew's Hospital at the disposal of the Association for the purposes of the meeting. The

Committee feel that the interest attaching to the occasion will be much increased by the holding of the meeting in a place of such historic and general importance.

The Committee have again to record their grateful recognition of the kindness of Dr. Colman for his valuable course of Lectures to Nurses, on the nursing of nervous diseases, and also to Mr. Clinton Dent, Dr. Wethered and Miss De Pledge for most interesting lectures delivered by them, all of which were much appreciated.

The Library continues to be largely used by members, and the thanks of the Committee are due to numerous donors for gifts of books. The Committee again confidently commend the Library to the kindly notice of those who may be disposed to contribute to its addition.

The Committee have pleasure in stating that Mrs. Neill has accepted the invitation to become local Honorary Secretary for New Zealand, and that Miss Frances G. Spencer has been asked to accept that appointment for New South Wales. There is every reason to hope that the movement in these colonies will meet with very general support.

The Committee regret to have to report the absence of the Secretary, Miss Ravenhill, owing to ill health, and they further desire to express their appreciation of the manner in which the work of the office has been carried on during her absence."

Mrs. OKELL asked whether it was true, as stated, that Sir John Reynolds was not a member of the Corporation at the time he attended the General Meeting on January 28th, and proposed the Resolution against a member of the Corporation.

The CHAIRMAN replied that Sir John Reynolds was an *ex-officio* member of the Executive Committee, and they had Counsel's opinion that he acted legally in proposing the Resolution in question.

Mrs. OKELL asked if he was a member of the Corporation on January 28th.

After the Chairman had repeated his explanation, and Mrs. Okell had repeated her question once again,

The CHAIRMAN replied that Sir John Reynolds was only elected as a member of the Corporation on February 7th.

Dr. FENWICK called attention to the fact that at the meeting in question the Chairman said he was legally advised that all who were not members of the Association must leave the room, and yet it was apparently known that the distinguished gentleman on his right hand, and who had been purposely brought to the meeting to propose the resolution against Nurse Barlow, was not a member of the Corporation, and had no right whatever to be present. These facts required no comment. Dr. Fenwick objected strongly to the fact that the representative of the Association at the meeting convened by the British Medical Association should have voted against the principle of legal Registration of Nurses, for which the Association was founded, and which had been publicly advocated by Her Royal Highness, the President. Considering that the Association was accepting money from Nurses for their Registration, he considered it strange that a representative of the Association should have voted for a resolution condemning Registration as injurious to Nurses. He objected to the wording of the proposed new Regulation. It stated that "all Nurses" would be required to conform to a resolution of that Council, an assumption of authority which was calculated to make the Council ridiculous. He suggested a verbal alteration to make it appear that the Regulation only applied to applicants for Registration.

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