

broken health. The Bond has also in the past year enabled eight nurses to follow a course of cooking in different schools for housekeeping. In this connection the Secretary found an opportunity to remark that it proves to be for many nurses a great difficulty, not to say an impossibility, to attend at regular times a series of lessons in the "culinary science" given outside the training school. Notwithstanding the co-operation of the Matron, insurmountable obstacles may arise; urgent duties admitting of no delay may present themselves. For private nurses those difficulties will often prove still greater. Therefore it seems most desirable that a course of cooking should be included in the curriculum of our hospital training schools. As a matter of course, this measure would occasion various difficulties in many institutions, but nevertheless attempts should be made to meet them. When the difficulties were of a pecuniary nature the Bond might perhaps give financial assistance. This project certainly deserves to be earnestly taken into consideration by all matrons of greater and smaller hospitals. The probationers would then have an opportunity of being taught how to prepare suitable, appetising, food for sick people, and their patients would afterwards profit by their culinary knowledge and experience.

The assembly was further informed of the gratifying fact that the number of members has increased. With genuine regret some words of praise and esteem were devoted to the memory of the late Dr. Hulshoff, the medical superintendent of the Children's Hospital at Utrecht, who was one of the first managers of the Bond.

Keeping in sight the principal aim of the Dutch Association for Treatment of the Sick: *to take care of the social and moral interests of nurses*, the Secretary said that she should like to suggest that the Bond might assist those sisters whose names are registered, in paying their insurance money. The Secretary closed her report by inviting all those present to further in all possible ways the cause of sick nursing.

Countess van Bylandt Rheydt, the lady superintendent of the House of Deaconesses at Utrecht, Dr. H. L. van Linden, van den Henvell and Dr. J. A. Wynhoff, were chosen as members of the Board of Management.

After this the chairman placed the following proposal before the assembly:—

"The Board of Management asks from the General Meeting a credit of one thousand florins at the most, to be disposed of in behalf of nurses."

In answer to a question from one of the lady members of the Bond, the Chairman explained that only *registered* nurses could rely upon the moral and essential aid of the Bond.

Without any further discussion the assembly gave the desired consent. It also approved *uno animo* of the proposal from the Board of Management to modify the clause that only those certificates won *after* 1894 are to be stamped and registered by the Bond. In order to give also to older nurses an opportunity of profiting by the advantages which the stamping of the certificates includes, diplomas conferred *before* the above-mentioned year may be sent in for stamping. In this matter the Board of Management has a casting vote.

The question whether grants should be made to invalid nurses, and to nurses working in city hospitals, gave rise to some discussion. According to the chairman the answer ought to be in the negative. City hospitals and such-like institutions are bound by a moral law to take care of their nurses in *all* circumstances. When it proves necessary that a nurse should spend some time in the country, the expenses should be paid, not by the Bond, but by the hospitals themselves. On this a well-known physician entered into debate. Although the existence of this moral duty is an undeniable fact, yet there are many institutions which, for some reason or other, wish to exculpate themselves, in which case the nurses would be the sufferers. He therefore proposed the following amendment:—

"The Board of Management reserves to itself the

right of making grants, for the purpose of enabling them to recruit their nurses working in city hospitals when these institutions fail to fulfil the moral obligation resting upon them."

The Chairman declared that he had no objection whatever to this view of the matter, and so this proposal was accepted by the assembly.

According to Art. II of the Statutes concerning the admission as members of the Bond of those persons who have in some way or other furthered the cause of sick nursing, membership was conferred upon Mrs. Brandenberg de Crane, at Amsterdam, a physician's widow, who had, before her marriage, done valuable work in the nursing world.

Hilversum being once more chosen as the place for the next general meeting of the Bond, the Chairman called upon Dr. J. A. Korteweg, Professor at the Amsterdam University, who gave a masterly lecture



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