

## The Matrons' Council.



A meeting of the Matrons' Council was held at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on Thursday, October 30th, at 4 p.m. There was a good attendance of members, Miss Isla Stewart (the President) was in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Secretary read the following report:—

### REPORT.

#### FORMATION OF SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

At the last meeting of the Matrons' Council, held at Morley Hall on May 30th, a report was received from the Registration Sub-Committee, which at the January Council meeting was authorised to undertake the preliminary organisation of a Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. This Society was then formed of over 450 trained nurses who had applied for membership, under the presidency of Miss Louisa Stevenson, of Edinburgh.

#### DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL.

Upon the invitation of the National Union of Women Workers, to send a delegate to the meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, Miss Kinnear Adams, Matron of the Ruchill Hospital, Glasgow, was nominated by the President and kindly consented to act. The meeting takes place in Edinburgh to-day, and Miss Adams will subsequently furnish the Council with a report of the proceedings.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Councillor of the Matrons' Council, is also attending the meeting as the delegate of the Registered Nurses' Society. During the week she is addressing meetings of nurses in Edinburgh and Glasgow on the subject of State Registration of Nurses. She will also speak on Wednesday next, November 5th, at the Women's Institute on the same subject.

#### DONATION TO THE FUNDS.

Miss Agnes Brennan, hon. member of the Council, has most kindly sent a donation of £2 10s. to its funds.

#### THE WORK OF MEMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

The Annual Report of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association, of which Miss McGahey, Matron of the Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, and hon. member of the Matrons' Council, is Hon. Secretary, affords most encouraging evidence of the progress of nursing organisation and nurse training in Australasia.

The same may be said of the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association, which has established a basis for uniform and reciprocal action with the Australasian Association. The Council of this Association, which

states that the movement for establishing a uniform system of training, examination, and registration of nurses has been successfully inaugurated and accepted throughout the country as well as by the metropolis, has instituted an examination in nursing, the successful passing of which will, after 1905, be the only test accepted by the Council as qualifying for registration by the Association. The examination will be both written and practical, by a conjoint board of medical and nursing examiners. For the ensuing twelve months the Council has appointed as nursing examiners Miss Amy Burleigh, Matron of the Melbourne Hospital, a member of the Matrons' Council, and Miss Ayres, Matron of the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne.

It will be remembered that last year another of our hon. members, Mrs. Grace Neill, was actively instrumental in obtaining the passage of an Act of Parliament providing for the registration of trained nurses in New Zealand.

There is cause for gratification that our members in these countries should be taking so prominent a part in the better organisation of the nursing profession, and the improved education of its members.

#### ORGANISATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the United States the organisation of the American Federation of Nurses, composed of two societies, the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses and the Trained Nurses' Associated Alumnae, is now complete. Through its medium American nurses have been admitted to membership of the National Council of Women of the United States, and at this year's meeting of the Council, held at Washington, the President of the American Federation, Miss Nutting, Superintendent of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, presented a report describing the formation and aims of the Federation.

#### TRANSACTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS.

The Transactions of the International Congress of Nurses are now published, price 5s., exclusive of postage, and may be obtained direct from Miss Banfield, Polyclinic Hospital, Philadelphia, or through the Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council.

#### OFFICIAL REPORTS.

As the Matrons' Council has since its foundation been indebted to the Editor of the NURSING RECORD for the publication of its official reports, the members will like to be informed that since July 1st the name of the paper has been changed to the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING (with which the NURSING RECORD is now incorporated). Official news of the International Council of Nurses and of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses also appears in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

The report was adopted, and it was also unanimously agreed that letters of congratulation be sent to the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association and the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association on their work for the nursing profession, as evidenced in their reports, to Mrs. Grace Neill, New Zealand, on the success which has attended her efforts to obtain the legal registration of nurses in that colony, and also that the thanks of the Matrons' Council be conveyed to Miss Brennan for her kind donation to the funds.

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