

The Matrons' Council.



The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council was held in the Board Room at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., on Friday, November 28th, at 4 p.m. In the absence of the President, the chair was taken by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. In spite of the inclement weather, there was a good attendance of members.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The first business on the Agenda was to receive the Annual Report and Financial Statement.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual Report will be printed in our next issue.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the balance in hand on January 1st was £11 17s. 5d. Since that date £8 1s. had been received in subscriptions. The expenditure had been 11s. 10d. The balance at the bank to the credit of the Council was £18, and in cash £1 6s. 7d. The liabilities were for printing and typing in connection with the present meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters of regret at inability to attend were received from Miss L. A. Morgan (Northern Hospital, Winchmore Hill), Miss A. Thomas (Park Hospital, Hither Green), Miss E. C. Barton (Chelsea Infirmary), Miss Marquardt (Camberwell Infirmary), Miss Trafford (Victoria Park Hospital), Mrs. Wates (Lewisham), Miss Pell Smith (Leicester), Miss Winifred Plum (Folkestone), Miss Richmond (Birmingham), Miss Barling (Kidderminster), Miss Shipley (Middlesbrough), Miss Macintyre (Wigan), Miss Mawe (Weston-super-Mare), Miss Clara Lee (Walsall), Miss Greenlaw (Newport). Amongst the correspondence considered was a letter from Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, of the firm of Burroughs and Wellcome, Snow Hill Buildings, E.C., announcing an exhibition which he had decided to hold in London shortly in connection with medicine, chemistry, pharmacy, and the allied sciences. The object of the exhibition was to bring together a collection of historical objects illustrating the development of the art and science of healing throughout the ages, and inviting the co-operation of the Matrons' Council. It was agreed to thank Mr. Wellcome for his letter, and to say that the members present at the Annual

Meeting would do their best to make the exhibition known.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Applications for membership were then considered and accepted from—

Miss E. M. Cooke, Matron of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, City Road, E.C.

Miss A. M. Kough, Matron Bethlem Royal Hospital, S.E.

Miss Hettie Shorto, Matron Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, W.C.

Miss H. A. Elliott, Matron of the General Hospital, Weston-super-Mare.

Miss A. J. M. Kitchen, Matron of the Spittlesea Hospital, Luton.

Miss Helen Swain, Matron of the West Norfolk and Lynn Hospital.

Miss M. Flood-Jones, Matron of St. Alban's Diocesan Institution for Trained Nurses.

BYE-LAWS.

The proposed alterations in the Bye-Laws which had been placed on the Agenda for discussion were considered and adopted.

The most important alterations were:—

(1) Under the Bye-Law defining the objects of the Council some additional objects were inserted.

(2) The abolition of the offices of Councillor and Vice-Chairman, and the provision for the appointment of Vice-Presidents.

(3) The dissolution of the Executive Committee. During the ten years of existence of the Matrons' Council it has been found that the Council is able to transact the business at its quarterly meetings, and that it is unnecessary to summon an executive to go through the same details beforehand. It was therefore arranged that no executive should be appointed in future, and that the President and Hon. Secretary should be empowered to deal with such business as may arise between the Council meetings.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The present Councillors were then appointed Vice-Presidents, and, in addition, Miss G. A. Rogers, Matron of the General Infirmary, Leicester, who for three years has held the position of Vice-Chairman.

STATE REGISTRATION.

The Draft Bill of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, as amended, was then considered, the Chairman pointing out its salient features. The appointment of an official representative of the Matrons' Council on to the Executive Committee of this Society was also considered, and Miss Ross, Matron of the Western Fever Hospital, was unanimously appointed. Miss Ross is one of the original members of the Council and one of its warmest supporters, and, as there is at present no representative of fever nursing on the Committee, the appointment was, from every point of view, a most suitable one.

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