

Miss Mysie L. Webb, Matron, Middlesborough Sanatorium, Yorkshire.

Miss Alice Lee Smith, Matron, Cottage Hospital, Ledbury.

Miss Georgiana J. Sanders, Superintendent of Training School, Polyclinic Hospital, Philadelphia.

Miss Jane Bell, Matron and Superintendent of Nurses, Brisbane Hospital, and Hon. Secretary of the Queensland Branch of the Australasian Nurses' Association.

REPORT OF DELEGATE TO NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Miss Kate Richmond, Matron of the Women's Hospital, Sparkhill, Birmingham, delegate of the Council to the National Council of Women recently held in that city, sent a report of the proceedings, which was read by the Hon. Secretary, to which the introduction was as follows:—"In attending the Conferences of Women Workers, which gather in our large towns year after year, it is often interesting to note, not only the subject or class of subjects to which attention is specially given, but also to observe a certain inner prevailing spirit, or distinctive thought which appears and re-appears, and leaves its impress on the mind more deeply perhaps than the facts and statistics through which it speaks. To us it seemed that 'to think imperially' was the unspoken word of the Birmingham Conference. There is a strong desire born into the time in which we live—the desire for a genuine brotherliness. It is capable of, and performs great sacrifices, but when it is young it will make them with a love that can give but has not learned to withhold. It will feed the hungry school child for nothing, and be unaware that the mother, unconsidered for the moment in the suffering of the child, is being deprived of the precious duties of parental responsibility. The Council meeting with which we are more directly concerned this afternoon exhibited a wide-mindedness and also a restraint in its resolutions which proved its possession as a body of that far-seeing policy which some of its speakers—and we are but human—did not perhaps sufficiently display.

"There was, however, another and equally important thread which ran through the deliberations of the meetings, namely, the sense of the infinite importance of *training*. Will the day come—many of us hope it will, when every woman, however she be born, or however provided for, will be trained in some one thing, no matter what, but truly trained?"

"In a delightful account of ancient tables, in the *Studio* of September, when describing the massive oak of them, the carving, the peacock's eye markings of the wonderful Kujia wood, the magnificent supports of them, 'which will no doubt bear the brunt of all time,' the writer observes: 'It was not for nothing that the boy served his seven years' apprenticeship, and then another seven years as a journeyman before he became a master.' To be useful in the world knowledge is essential—a love that knows—and in order to know, the man, and the woman, too, must be trained."

The Council is indebted to Miss Richmond for gathering up the lessons of the Conference, as well as detailing its actual business, which has

already been reported in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Registration of Nurses was then considered. General satisfaction was expressed that the Committee had endorsed the principle of Registration, and had reported to the House of Commons that they were "agreed that it is desirable that a Register of nurses should be kept by a Central Body appointed by the State." It was decided to support the Bill of the Society for State Registration in its demand for a Central Examination, which, it was pointed out, has been adopted by every colony and State which has established a system of Registration, and also in regard to the requirement of an adequate registration fee.

OTHER BUSINESS.

It was agreed to that at the next Conference the subject to be discussed should be "Nursing Economics," the arrangements being left in the hands of the President and Hon. Secretary.

Miss Helen Pearse, Matron of the Great Northern Hospital, was elected to a seat on the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses in the place of Miss C. L. Butler, now in South Africa. A vote of thanks was passed to the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for their Annual Report.

The issue of a history of the work of the Council during the last decade was authorised.

The meeting then terminated.

MARGARET BREAY,

Hon. Secretary Matrons' Council.

How to Start a "Linen Guild."

A fortnight ago a short paragraph appeared in this journal about a "Household Linen Association," which is worked in connection with the Royal National Sanatorium for Chest Disease at Bournemouth. The notice has led to so many inquiries as to the method of its working by Matrons of Hospitals and other ladies interested in different institutions that I am led to believe that a short account of the foundation and system of this linen guild may be of use to some of your readers.

The Royal National Sanatorium, like so many other institutions, finds it a very difficult matter financially to make both ends meet, and when the extension of the building was commenced eighteen months ago it was very evident that the cost of the fabric and the furniture would strain the funds to the utmost, without taking into consideration the provision of the necessary bedding and linen.

After informally "sounding" several ladies interested in the Sanatorium, notices were sent to the wives of the members of the committee of management inviting them to meet and

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