

years' term of training in a hospital or hospitals and a Central Examination.

The Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund, Mrs. Matthews, reported that no claims for assistance had been received in the past year and that there was a balance in hand of £97 7s. 7d. (This is the second year that the Treasurer has been able to make this very satisfactory statement.)

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

The Scrutineers of Voting Papers reported that Miss Helen Todd had been elected President of the League, in succession to Miss Cox Davies, who retired.

Miss Cox Davies in making the announcement said that there was no one she could think of to whom she would sooner hand over a very much-loved position, responsibility and trust from their first President. Miss Todd would carry on the best traditions of the League, and she offered her the warmest and most affectionate welcome.

Miss Todd, who, on rising to express her thanks to the League, was warmly applauded, said that she was sorry to see Miss Cox Davies vacate the chair. It would be extremely difficult to follow her.

Mrs. Andrews then rose and expressed her hearty thanks to Miss Cox Davies for the way in which she had presided over the League. She became President in 1908, during the life time of Miss Isla Stewart, Founder and First President. Thus the Presidency of the League had been held for nine years by its Founder and nine years by Miss Cox Davies. It was a happy thought of the Secretary and Executive Committee to offer for her acceptance the Special Badge of the League. Mrs. Andrews then presented it with a bouquet of beautiful crimson Britannia carnations, with best wishes for her future happiness and success.

In acknowledging the gift Miss Cox-Davies said the League must forgive her for saying only a few words. She was feeling much more than she was able to express.

Mrs. Spencer then proposed that the thanks of the League should be accorded to Miss Helen Pearse for allowing her name to be put up for election. Perhaps at some future time it might have the pleasure of welcoming her as President. This was endorsed by acclamation.

The Scrutineers further reported that Miss Le Geyt, Miss M. Anderson, Miss Bostock and Mrs. Gillies had been elected to the vacancies on the Executive. The cordial thanks of the League were expressed to the retiring members for their services.

Miss G. Mew (Sister Faith) was elected Vice-President in succession to Mrs. Andrews, and a vote of sympathy with her in her illness directed to be sent to her.

THE ISLA STEWART MEMORIAL.

Mrs. Shuter then presented the Report of the Standing Committee of the Isla Stewart Memorial Fund, stating that during the year £25 had been invested in Exchequer Bonds and £20 in 5 per cent. War Loan Stock. The Fund had now £550 invested at par, and at a meeting held on June

27th it was decided as soon as the League had paid its annual donation of £5 to the Fund to invest another £20 in War Loan Stock, making £570 invested in Stock.

THE REPORT OF THE DELEGATE OF THE SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Miss Le Geyt, as the delegate of the League on the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, then presented her report, which stated that a year ago the majority of members were full of high hopes that the negotiations between the Central Committee for State Registration of Nurses and the College of Nursing, Ltd., would result in the presentation to Parliament of a conjoint Bill. Unfortunately, by the autumn negotiations had to be terminated, the crucial point at variance between the two bodies being the elimination of the Central Committee from representation on the Provisional Council set up in the Nurses' Registration Bill drafted by the College, as previously printed, thereby ignoring the principle of direct representation of nurses through their organised societies, which had promoted the movement for the organization of the Nursing Profession by the State.

She also drew attention to the Petition to the Prime Minister organised by the Society, asking that any Bill for State Registration of Nurses should embody this fundamental principle, and invited signatures to this request for safeguarding the right of trained nurses to self-government.

Miss Musson said she might be optimistic, but she still hoped, before long, to see an agreed Bill before Parliament.

Both reports were received.

NURSING IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

Miss Simpkin, late Sister John, then read a paper on Nursing in Central Africa. The first boy baptized in the hospital at Kota-Kota after her arrival there was, she said, named Rahere, and he was extremely interested to hear the story of the first Rahere. Many of the patients who came to the hospital had been torn by lions, bitten by snakes, or injured by crocodiles. In the short time she had been at Kota-Kota four children had been taken altogether by crocodiles. Some people asked whether it was worth while to go out to Central Africa to take a knowledge of Christianity to the natives. Her experience was emphatically in the affirmative.

At four o'clock the business meeting concluded and the members adjourned to the Great Hall, where tea and strawberries awaited them, and where Mr. Algernon Clarke's Ladies' Trio as usual provided delightful music. Among the guests was Miss M. Thurston, Matron-in-Chief of the New Zealand Army Nursing Service, and amongst the members present was Miss Phoebe Watt, who has done such good war service, first as Matron of the Rawal Pindi Hospital in France, and afterwards at Amara, Mesopotamia. It was in the hospital of which she was matron that Sir Victor Horsley died.

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