

## BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the General Council was held at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, on Friday, June 8th, at five p.m. There was a large attendance of members, and the chair was taken by H.R.H. Princess Christian, the President of the association.

Letters of apology for their absence were read from Miss Thorold (Middlesex Hospital), Dr. Philipson (Newcastle), Mr. Stoker (Dublin), and others.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Miss Catherine J. Wood, hon. sec.

The meeting then proceeded to discuss the following regulations for the General Council:—

REGULATION I.—The meetings of the General Council shall be held on the second Fridays of January, April, July and October in each year at five o'clock. Special meetings shall be summoned as necessary on the requisition of thirty members. At any meeting, fifteen shall be the necessary quorum.

REGULATION II.—The order of business at the meetings of the General Council shall be as follows:—

(a) To read and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting.

(b) To receive and consider reports from the Executive Committee.

(c) To consider any motion of which notice shall have been given in writing, one month previously, to the Secretary.

(d) To do such other business as may be necessary.

(e) To receive any notice of motion to be brought before the next meeting.

REGULATION III.—When any question comes to the vote, the chairman shall have the option of voting, but if the numbers for and against any resolution or amendment be equal, then the chairman shall give a casting vote.

REGULATION IV.—No new regulation for the conduct of the General Council meetings shall be proposed, nor any old regulation altered or rescinded, unless notice of such proposed addition or alteration shall have been given one month previously, in writing, to the Secretary, and shall have been duly noted on the agenda paper.

REGULATION V.—The dates and hours of the four ordinary meetings of the current year shall be notified on a card to each member at the beginning of each year. The places of meeting and agenda paper for each meeting shall be advertised in at least two medical papers published in the week previous to the occurrence of each meeting.

These were unanimously passed, upon the motion of Mr. Brudenell Carter, seconded by Dr. Priestley.

Sir Dyce Duckworth then proposed the following alterations in two of the bye-laws:—

In No. VII., which runs as follows:—

VII.—The General Council shall consist of the president, the vice-presidents, 100 medical men (inclusive of the teachers of nursing at Metropolitan hospitals, of whose number two shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee), 100 past or present matrons, and 100 sisters or nurses, including the members of the Executive Committee. It shall meet once in each three months, or oftener if necessary, to receive the report of the Executive Committee for the previous quarter, and to transact such

other business as may come before it. The ultimate decision on any matter affecting the association shall rest with the General Council.

He proposed to substitute *twelve* of the teachers of nursing as ex-officio members of the Executive Committee, for the two who would represent the teaching staff as the bye-law now stood.

The change in No. VII. would necessitate a similar change in No. IX.:—

IX.—The Executive Committee shall consist of the following ex-officio members, subject to their consent to act:—The president of the association; the matrons of the general hospitals of the Metropolis, to which recognised medical schools are attached; two teachers of nursing at the above hospitals, as provided in Bye-law VII.; the heads of the Navy and Army Nursing Departments; and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick; and of the following 27 elected members, viz., four physicians; four surgeons; four general medical practitioners; four matrons of special or general hospitals to which medical schools are not attached, and two matrons of the Poor Law Infirmaries of the Metropolis; one sister in charge of a ward, and one staff-nurse at a Metropolitan hospital; one lady superintendent of district nurses; four matrons of provincial hospitals or infirmaries in England or Wales; one matron of a Scottish hospital; and one matron of an Irish Hospital.

which should read, "a lecturer to nurses at each of the Metropolitan hospitals to which medical schools are attached." The number twelve was chosen because it would admit of the admission of a representative of the teaching staff of each of these hospitals to the Executive Committee.

In reply to a question put by Dr. Sidney Coupland, Sir Dyce Duckworth said that the admission of representatives from Irish, Scotch, and Provincial hospitals, would come under the future consideration of the General Council.

A member sent up in writing a question as to the method of election to the Executive Committee, to which it was replied, that that would be a matter for future consideration: all that was necessary at present was the recognition of the principle that lecturers on nursing should be admitted to the Executive Committee.

Dr. Theodore Acland asked whether teachers of physiology and chemistry would be eligible as members of the Executive Committee.

Sir Dyce Duckworth stated in reply that he did not think lecturers on those subjects would be of much service to a nursing association.

It was then proposed by Mr. Brudenell Carter, seconded by Sister Rosa, of Charing Cross, and carried unanimously, "That the seal of the Association should comprise—in the centre, a medallion profile of the head of Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, the first President of the association; above this, the words, 'British Nurses' Association'; and below it, the words, 'Founded 1887.' That the Executive Committee be empowered to have this seal suitably engraved, and to choose such words

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