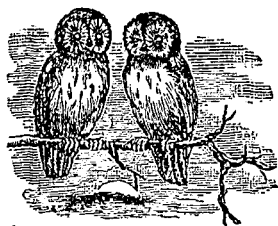


And as some members of the National Health Society last year so strongly opposed the suggestion that the Royal British Nurses' Association should inaugurate a course of lectures—the plagiarism of the suggested scheme of lectures specially designed to meet the needs of women desiring to become trained Nurses is somewhat inconsistent on the part of this otherwise very useful Society.

We are also of opinion that a new trial will be added to the lives of our Matrons if their Probationers are to be selected from candidates who are already *full fledged teachers of Nursing*.

Matrons in Council.



A MEETING of the Council was held on Tuesday, 23rd inst., at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Miss Isla Stewart in the chair. The reports from the Executive Committee and the Treasurer were read and adopted.

YEARLY REPORT OF MATRONS' COUNCIL.

It is just one year since the Matrons' Council was called into existence, and the Executive Committee wish to draw attention to the success which has marked its first efforts. There are at the present moment seventy-two members and three associates. The three Conferences held during the winter were well attended, and may be considered in every way successful—as pleasant social gatherings, and from the interesting able papers read at each.

The resolutions passed at the first two cannot fail in time to end in practical results. Although the Advisory Committee has not yet been appealed to, there is little doubt that when its existence is more generally known it will be a source of valuable help in difficulties.

Schools of Method have been held under the able direction of Mrs. Eva McLaren, at which those members who were able to attend received much valuable instruction on the methods of conducting business at Committee and other Meetings.

In accordance with the request of the Council, the Executive Committee have carefully considered, drafted and issued the following questions *re* "A Uniform Curriculum for Nurses."

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL.

The Council is desirous of obtaining the opinions of Matrons on a Uniform Curriculum of Training for Nurses, and will therefore be greatly obliged if you will answer the following questions as fully as possible, and return them not later than September 15th, to the Hon. Secretary, 22, Cheyne Gardens, Chelsea, S.W.

Questions.

- (1) Are you in favour of a Uniform Curriculum of Education for Nurses?
- (2) Are you in favour of a Preliminary Course of Education?
- (3) What subjects should this Preliminary Course of Education include?
- (4) Are you in favour of a Preliminary Examination?

(5) What length of time do you consider necessary for a Nurse to work in the wards of a Hospital before she can be considered fully trained?

(6) In what way would you advise that this period should be passed?

(7) Of what should the Theoretical Education of a Nurse consist during her period of training?

(8) How many examinations would you consider necessary during the period of training and before awarding certificates?

(9) By whom should these examinations be conducted?

(10) What form should this Certificate take?

(11) On what Financial System should a Nurse's training be based?

(12) Are you in favour of State Registration?

Signature.....

Address.....

The answers received when tabulated will form the basis of a paper to be read by the Chairman at the opening meeting of next Session in October. The Council decided to invite Miss Brennan, Superintendent of the Nurse Training School, Belle Vue Hospital, New York City, to become an Honorary Member.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer reported that the total receipts for year ending July, 1895, were :—

	£20 8 6
Total expenditure	20 1 2
	0 7 4
Balance	0 7 4

There is in hand a sufficient number of printed forms and bye-laws to last a considerable time; the financial condition of the Council is therefore sound.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick then proposed, Mrs. Gray seconded, and it was carried, "That Local Centres in connection with the Matrons' Council be formed."

It was decided that branches in Scotland and Ireland should be first considered, and influential Matrons in those countries approached on the subject.

Miss Robertson then proposed, Miss Kenealy seconded, and it was carried, "That a Post-Graduate Course of Demonstrations in Practical Nursing be organised in connection with the Matrons' Council."

A small sub-committee was formed to carry out the scheme in detail.

The following resolution was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that "The Matrons' Council regrets to hear that the Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association, has decided to discontinue the course of lectures inaugurated last year, and thus abandoned the principle of providing preliminary teaching for candidates who wish to enter the services of Hospitals as Probationers, and they hope that the Executive Committee will reconsider the matter, with a view to bringing it again before the Council of the Corporation."

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick gave notice that at the October Meeting of the Matrons' Council she would propose the following resolution :—"That the Matrons' Council shall now proceed to organise Courses of Preliminary Training for women desirous to become Hospital Probationers, in order that this important work may be carried out by a professional body.

In the event of this resolution being carried, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will explain a scheme of organisation for the consideration of the Matrons' Council."

M. ANDREWS,
Hon. Secretary.

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