

The Chairman placed Mrs. Warren's name to the meeting, and declared it was "carried by an enormous majority."

Dr. Bedford Fenwick said that he knew that no arguments were of any avail with the present Council, packed as it had been with nurses and officials from the Middlesex Hospital, and the Chelsea Infirmary; but he must point out that they were asked to accept a list of matrons, of whom 70 either lived abroad or in the provinces, while only about 20 were so near London that they could attend the meetings of the Council. With regard to the Nurses' List, he pointed out that half of those nominated were either private nurses or were working in distant provincial hospitals; and of the 48 nurses who were in or near London no less than 23 were from the Chelsea Infirmary, and the Middlesex Hospital. In short, the officials had broken down the former, and only honourable, plan of making the General Council really representative both of the Association and of the whole nursing profession, and it was now merely a packed body of nurses and medical men from the Middlesex Hospital and the Chelsea Workhouse Infirmary. Such a Council could have no prestige, and certainly possessed no professional respect, while nothing could more strongly condemn the management of the Association which had brought about such a result. The Council started last October by doing an illegal thing, which it had hurriedly to remedy; and now it had sanctioned what would probably prove to be another illegality on the part of the officials. It could not be wondered at that the General Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association was now known in professional circles as Tammany Hall.

The Council List was then adopted with three dissentients.

The Chairman having asked if there were any other business,

Dr. Fenwick asked if there was no Report forthcoming concerning the mental nurse scheme. There was a growing public and professional opposition to this, and it was strange that the Council was not informed what was being done.

The Chairman said the matter was still under consideration, and there was nothing to report.

Dr. Fenwick pointed out that it must therefore be assumed that the position of the officials exhibited at the last Council Meeting, viz., a determination to admit mental attendants to the Register of Nurses, was maintained.

To this no contradiction was given by the Chairman or any other Honorary Officer.

Mr. Fardon mentioned that other bodies would present addresses to Her Majesty on the celebration of her Jubilee this year, and that it was thought the Association should take such a step.

A desultory conversation took place, during which Dr. Fenwick protested against the disrespectful manner in which so important a matter had been treated by the officials. It should have been carefully considered, and formally brought before the Council after full notice, when it would have received proper attention, and the enthusiastic approval of the governing body of the Association, which now would not meet until the Jubilee was over.

The matter was finally referred to the Executive Committee, and the proceedings terminated.

Nursing Echoes.

* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



WE regret to be compelled to allude to the statement made by a Miss Meyrick at the meeting of the General Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and duly reported in another column, and which we repeat is absolutely untrue. We have always avoided any public claim to be the founder of the Association, because we fully realised the immense and invaluable assistance given in that matter by many of our colleagues. But truth compels us to state, once and for all, facts which it appears untruthful persons desire to deny. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick suggested the formation of a British Nurses' Association, and drew up the scheme of the proposed Association, which was presented to a small meeting of matrons, including Miss Wood, Miss Isla Stewart, Miss Mollett, and others. All the preliminary meetings were held at Dr. Bedford Fenwick's house, and for the first year all the work of the Association was transacted there, during which time some 2,000 nurses and doctors joined the Association, a success which has never been equalled since. Mrs. Fenwick has carefully preserved all the original correspondence, which more than proves the above statements.

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THE Lady Mayoress has granted the use of the Mansion House, on May 7th, to further the "Children's Tribute" movement on behalf of the fund being raised through the "Children's Salon" for the Queen's Jubilee Nurses. The Lady Mayoress will preside, and Mrs. Jack Johnson will give "The Children's Story of the Queen's Reign."

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At last a glimmer of common sense and justice concerning the Registration of trained nurses is beginning to filter into the brain of the general public. No doubt self-preservation upon their part will prove the lever for effecting this necessary reform. Such scandals as that exposed in the press in relation to the so-called Ings House Nursing Co-operation, will, we hope, have the effect of arousing the public on the

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