

ing the question showed that their interest in the matter was aroused, and all to whom he had spoken were unanimous and strong in their disapproval.

With regard to the Nursing profession, it was obvious that persons who had gone through an arduous and lengthy training in Hospitals, and had paid for the privilege of being placed upon the Register of Trained Nurses, had a very just ground of complaint if they found persons admitted to the Register who had not gone through the same training, and did not stand on the same footing as themselves. (Applause.)

He deeply regretted that this matter had been brought before the public. It ought to have been discussed in the Association itself, but as they had heard that afternoon the Association unhappily had fallen into the hands of a few officials, who had prevented discussion, stifled criticism, made statements in the official Journal of the Association which were not accurate, and had kept back from the members the knowledge of the true position of their affairs. When any one rose in the Council or at the Annual Meeting to criticise one of these officials, that person was usually termed "turbulent" or at least "hypercritical," if indeed the attempt at criticism was not entirely prohibited. (Applause.) In conclusion, he hoped that the Meeting would, by its voting, persuade the officials of the Association that the proposals they had made were not tenable, that they had no public or professional sympathy with them in the matter, and that they would therefore act most wisely by at once withdrawing their scheme. (Applause.)

RESOLUTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Resolution was then put to the meeting by the Chairman, and his subsequent statement that it was carried unanimously was received with much enthusiasm and applause.

A vote of thanks to Mr. George Brown for the able manner in which he had discharged the duties of Chairman was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to Miss Wingfield for her public-spirited action in convening this meeting was proposed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, and carried with acclamation.

The proceedings then terminated.

IMPORTANT LETTERS.

MISS WINGFIELD regrets that, owing to pressure of time, she was unable to read to those who attended the meeting many letters received from influential Matrons and Nurses. We have pleasure, therefore, in devoting space in our correspondence columns for this purpose.

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



THE Quarterly Meeting of the Council was held on January 8th, 1897, at the Offices, 17, Old Cavendish Street. Her Royal Highness the President took the Chair, and rather fewer medical men and nurses than usual were present. The minutes of the last Ordinary and Special Meetings having been read and confirmed, Mr. Edward Fardon stated that eighteen letters had been received from members objecting to the proposal to register Mental Nurses, and one letter in favour of the suggestion. He asked whether the Council desired to hear the letters read.

Her Royal Highness asked those who were *against* having the letters read to vote, and most of the Council doing so, the next business was proceeded with.

The Treasurer then read his Report as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Since the last Council Meeting in October, I have the pleasure to announce the receipt of the following donations to our funds:—£25 from H.R.H. the President; £50 from the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, Bart.; and £10 from Dr. Willingham Gell. I have also to report that the Hon. Treasurer's loan of £90, advanced in May last, has been converted into a gift.

The funds of the Association have been largely strengthened by the sale of the surplus stock of the Bazaar held in 1894, at the Grafton Galleries. The sale of work was held at the Rooms of the Association, on the 28th of November, under the personal auspices of our Royal President, and resulted in an addition to our funds of nearly £75.

The Annual Conversazione, held at the Portman Rooms on the 18th of December last, was graced by the presence of our Royal President. Nearly 900 members of the Association and their friends attended the entertainment, which proved not only a social, but also a financial success. The total receipts amount to £113, and the expenditure to £95 12s. 3d., showing a surplus of £17 7s. 9d., the largest profit the Hon. Treasurer has ever had the pleasure of recording.

I regret, however, on the other hand, to draw attention to the arrears of the subscriptions of some of the Nurse Members, which have reached a sum of no less than £80. I take this opportunity of urging all Members in arrears kindly to remit their subscriptions to our Secretary at their earliest convenience.

The receipts during the last three months have amounted to £859 18s. 7d., whilst the expenditure during the same period reached the sum of £673 2s. 11d.

Reviewing the financial position of our Association during the past quarter, it is a pleasure to draw your attention to the fact that, after the discharge of all our liabilities up to the 31st of December, we shall have to our credit in the hands of our Bankers a balance of nearly £60.

If we compare our present position with that of the previous quarter, when our liabilities amounted to

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)