

#### THE PROPOSED CENTRAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

A CROWDED meeting, in the theatre of the Royal United Service Institution, was the response to the invitation issued by the Council of the Charity Organisation Society to consider the advisability of a central hospital board for London, and to appoint a preliminary general committee. The Earl of Stamford presided, and was supported on the platform by Sir William Broadbent, Lieut.-Colonel Montefiore, Mr. C. S. Loch, Secretary, and Mr. F. C. Wallis, F.R.C.S.

Mr. Loch read a telegram from H.R.H. Princess Christian, and letters from various gentlemen expressing their regret at their inability to attend the meeting.

The following resolution was proposed by Sir William Broadbent, and seconded by Mr. Victor Horsley:—

“That this meeting affirms the resolution adopted on April 13th last, approving of the establishment of a central hospital board for London on a representative basis, and accepts the draft submitted to it as indicating a plan that, subject to further consideration and modification, is likely to prove satisfactory; and that the following be a general committee to consider, promote, and from time to time report upon the draft scheme, with power to add to their number and to appoint an executive committee.”

We are sorry to see that no names of representatives of the Nursing Profession are placed upon the list. We hope this omission may be rectified, and that nursing interests will be duly represented on the board by the election of representative members of the *Nursing Profession* on that body.

Two amendments of the resolution were put to the meeting, both of which were lost.

The objections put forward to the scheme were the unwieldy size of the proposed board; the probability that the Executive Committee would ultimately be composed of a few active men and women who had at present few public duties; and that it would be a very risky proceeding to place so much power in the hands of a few persons, who would, with the control of public money, acquire also a dangerous control over the Hospitals.

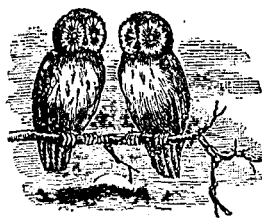
The Chairman of King's College Hospital regretted that such short notice had been given of this meeting, as it had been impossible for him to discuss the matter with his committee.

Finally the original resolution was carried, 121 voting for and 12 against it. We commend to the notice of the Honorary Officers of the Royal British Nurses' Association the fact that both upon the amendments and upon the original resolution the votes were publicly counted and announced from the platform by Mr. Loch.

#### Appointments.

MISS AMY F. LANG has been appointed Superintendent of Nursing to the Infirmary of St. John's Workhouse, Hampstead. Miss Lang was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, being on the Staff from 1884 to 1892. She was then appointed Sister and Superintendent of Nursing at the Greek Hospital, Alexandria, which position she recently resigned. Miss Lang took an active part in the work of the Nursing Exhibition held in London last summer, and is a member of the Royal British Nurses' Association and a Registered Nurse. We wish her success and happiness in her new sphere of work.

#### The Matrons' Council.



THE Quarterly Meeting of the Matrons' Council was held at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on Thursday the 21st inst. In accordance with the new Bye-law, "That Vice-Chairmen should

retire at the end of three years with the title of Councillor," Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss Cassandra Beachcroft, County Hospital, Lincoln, were appointed the first Councillors.

It was reported that Miss Harriet F. Hopkins, South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Plymouth, had accepted the vacant seat as Vice-Chairman of the Council, and Miss Miriam Ridley, Miss Elma Smith, Miss Shirley, Stoke-on-Trent, Miss H. Poole, Blackburn Infirmary, and Miss C. Beachcroft had accepted the vacant seats on the Executive Committee for 1897.

Letters concerning interesting questions on nursing education and ethics were received from Miss Martha Farquharson, Hon. Member, Melbourne Hospital, and from the Sister Superior of St. John's House, which were referred to the Advisory Committee for full consideration.

#### THE CONFERENCE.

The Conference was held on the evening of the 21st instant at the Medical Society's Rooms, Chandos Street, W. Miss Isla Stewart, Chairman, presided, and read the following paper, contributed by Mrs. Isabel Hampton Robb, late Superintendent of the Training School for Nurses, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Hon. Member of the Council.

An interesting discussion followed, in which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mrs. Walter Spencer, Miss Kingsford and Miss Margaret Breay took part. Tea and coffee were served in the Library.

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