

Miss Scott, the president, read an address to the nurses, urging more thorough organisation and an agitation for four objects, viz.: A club or home in this city to be governed by the nurses themselves, and which the medical profession have encouraged; endowing a room in the hospital for sick nurses; establishing a room to supply the sick-room with linen and all necessaries; and the organisation of a sick benefit fund.

After the speeches 25 new members were enrolled, and the election of officers was held, resulting as follows:—President, Miss Scott; First Vice-President, Miss Tweedie; Second Vice-President, Miss Watson; Secretary, Miss F. Sharpe; Treasurer, Miss Mary Dougal; Board of Directors, Misses Fisher, Craig, and Davis.

The next meeting of the association will be held in the Nurses' Home, Toronto General Hospital, early in November.

### A Nurses' Petition.

We are glad to learn that the nurses of the Croydon Infirmary fully realize the professional injury they will suffer if the recent resolution of the Guardians with regard to the Matron is enforced, and have taken steps to represent their views on the subject in a constitutional manner, by sending a united petition to the Guardians asking them to reconsider their resolution.

In this petition the nurses represent that under the present arrangement their Certificates will no longer be signed by the Matron, and if this resolution is put into force, the Infirmary can no longer be regarded as a training school, and this will be most prejudicial to their future career. Further that a Certificate without the Matron's signature is of no value whatever in the nursing profession, and they therefore hope that the Guardians who could not have realized what their resolution meant to the nursing staff, both past and present, will again give the matter their serious and careful consideration. The letter was signed by twenty-two probationers.

The nursing staff of the Croydon Infirmary will learn from the report of the Matrons' Council, which we print in another column, that this Council, which is a Society of Superintendents of Nurses, has fully realised the injury to which they are subjected by the resolution referred to, and that the Council has taken steps to support their interests in a resolution sent to the Local Government Board.

It is to be hoped that the Local Government Board will realize how much depends upon their decision in this most important matter, affecting as it does not only the nurses of the Croydon Infirmary, but those of every training school under the Poor Law. The trouble arises from the fact that the present regulations as to the duties of the Matrons in Poor Law Infirmaries were drawn up when trained nursing was practically unknown, and it is time that they were entirely recast in conformity with the requirements of modern nursing.

Just as we go to press we have received a copy of the letter addressed by the Local Government Board to the Croydon Guardians, which we quote on page 399. This letter opens the way for the reconsideration of their resolution by the Guardians, and for the withdrawal of a decision which, if enforced, will inevitably mean the deterioration of the Nursing School.

### New Preparations, Inventions, etc.

#### MARVIS.

Marvis is the name given to a new food prepared in the North of Scotland by the Patent Fish Syndicate. It is a white powder with a slight fishy odour. It mixes easily with water or milk. It consists of the flesh of fresh white fish, cleaned and boned, thoroughly cooked, and minutely powdered, and with the addition of a small proportion of flour. The powder has been carefully analysed, and has been found to consist of 54 per cent. of proteid material, 2.5 per cent. of fats, 15 per cent. of carbo-hydrates, and a considerable percentage of salts, including organic phosphates. It is needless, therefore, to say that this preparation represents a food of very high nutritive value, and per unit of weight is at least three times more nutritious than lean beef, whilst its expense probably is 50 per cent. less. Considering the huge amount of fish food which is annually wasted in this country, it is not too much to say that the production of such a food as this represents an incalculable and national benefit, especially to the poor. But there is a further point of much importance in that "Marvis" is palatable, easily digested, appetising, and most nutritious. It is taken well both by invalids and children, and, in fact, requires only to be well known to become established, not only as a recognised food, but as a valuable article of invalid dietary.

#### STRENBO.

This name has been given to a new preparation of Liebig's Extract of Meat, treated by a new process which gives a greater proportion of soluble constituents of prime Ox beef than the majority of Meat Extracts. We find that it is well taken by invalids and convalescents, and it evidently possesses, not only great nutritious, but also stimulating, properties. It can be obtained direct from the Strenbo Co., Manchester, or from any chemist or grocer, and we can commend it with confidence to our readers as a useful addition to ordinary invalid soups and preparations.

#### MOTHER'S OATS.

In drawing attention in a recent issue to the advantages of Mother's Oats as a cereal food, we stated that they should be cooked in a double boiler, for a few minutes in the inner one directly over the fire, and then this should be placed in the outer boiler and the contents cooked for 15 minutes. This is so, but we are asked by the Akron Cereal Co. to state that *before they reach the consumer at all they*

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