

may give undue power to the Borough and County Councils upon which women, and therefore midwives, are ineligible to sit, thus depriving them of all power of self-government.

The Resolution proposed by Mrs. Kensington on behalf of the Tunbridge Wells Branch of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland was one in which a large proportion of the members assembled heartily concurred. It suggested that, in future, to enable the voting for the Candidates for Election as President, Vice-President, or Members of the Executive to be more intelligently performed, the names of the candidates with some short statement of their qualifications should be sent to the Representatives of the Council a few days previous to the General Meeting. This Resolution was supported by Members from Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other distant parts of the Kingdom, the general feeling in the country branches being apparently that some more definite knowledge of the personal career and qualifications of those from among whom they were asked to elect their officers and executive, would greatly increase their interest in the National Union of Women Workers, and would also tend to ensure the most suitable candidates being chosen.

This was unanimously agreed to, and the Meeting then heard the Reports of the Sectional Committees, some of which were exceedingly interesting, while others showed how up-hill is the work of educating and reforming the masses. Among these Reports that of the Central Bureau for the Employment of Women was perhaps the most encouraging, giving, as this Bureau does, a chance of earning their daily bread to many women, who through various causes are driven out into the world to make a living for themselves.

After receiving the Report of the International Council of Women, followed by the announcement of the Election of Officers and Members of the Executive for 1902, the Meeting broke up.

In the Evening a *Conversazione* was given to all Members of the National Council of Women by the invitation of Mrs. Mackenzie Davidson, at the Sandringham Club, Dover Street.

The Hon. Secretary then read a Report from Miss Hay Forbes of the Conference convened by the National Union of Women Workers on Rural Housing. It was agreed that both Reports be entered on the Minutes.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF EDUCATION.

The Hon. Secretary reported that an invitation had been received from the Women's Local Government Society to send a representative to a Conference held, by the kind permission of Lady Frederick Cavendish, at 21, Carlton House Terrace on "The Part of Women in the National Organization of Education."

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick attended the Conference and reported that the question was ably discussed by Lady Strachey from the Chair, Sir Joshua Fitch, and other expert educationalists. The point brought out in discussion was that it was feared that the forthcoming Bill to be presented to Parliament would authorise the entire control of the secondary education of the people by Boards such as the County and Borough Councils, on

which women were not eligible to sit, and, in fact, from which they had been removed. This was considered eminently unjust when it was realised that women teachers composed three fourths of the *personnel* of the teaching staff, and that the education of girls, as well as of boys, would be controlled by those bodies authorised to act. The Conference was quite unanimous in the opinion that women should be eligible to sit on Educational Bodies, and that they should do all in their power to present this view to the Government, and also to educate the public in the serious issues involved in the question of their exclusion. Finally it was arranged that the Women's Local Government Society should present these views in a petition widely signed on behalf of Women's Societies by their respective Presidents.

An animated discussion took place, in which Miss Isla Stewart, Miss Mollett, Miss Beatrice Jones, Miss Greenlaw, Mrs. Gray, Miss Todd, and others took part, and on the motion of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, seconded by Miss Beatrice Jones, it was agreed that if invited the President of the Matrons' Council should be empowered to sign the Petition.

The meeting then terminated.

MARGARET BREAY,
Hon. Secretary Matrons' Council of
Great Britain and Ireland.

The American Nursing World.

On Thursday, September, 19th, the funeral day of the martyred President—Mr. William McKinley—a patriotic nurse rose at the Nurses' Congress, and proposed that an organization be perfected in America similar to the Victorian Order of Nurses in Canada, to be named the William McKinley Order of Nurses, and that the nation's support be given to such an organization, instead of contributing a fund for a mammoth marble shaft to the President's memory.

The suggestion has already born fruit, the Nurses of Boston have petitioned Governor Crane to establish such an Order of Nurses, to provide skilled nursing for the sick poor.

Graduate nurses of Chicago will ask from the next State Legislature a law requiring the registration of trained nurses. At a joint meeting of St. Luke's and the Illinois Training Schools' Alumnae Associations at the rooms of the Visiting Nurses' Association in the Unity Building, November 6th, the need for such a law was expressed and the dangers of the present system pointed out. Addresses were made on the subject by Miss Harriet Fulmer, president of the Graduate Nurses' Association of Illinois; Miss Jane Adams, superintendent of Hull House, and Mr. Milton J. Foreman.

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