

The Matrons' Council.



The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council took place at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on Thursday, January 30th, at 4 p.m. In the unavoidable absence of Miss Isla Stewart, President, at the beginning of the meeting, the chair was taken, and the business conducted, by Miss Huxley, the senior Vice-Chairman.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the form of the Annual Report and Financial Statement were discussed, and their adoption carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The next business on the Agenda was the election of officers for the ensuing year. The retiring Vice-Chairman, Miss Huxley, was unanimously appointed a Councillor, and being present, signified her acceptance of the position. Miss Poole, Matron of the Blackburn Infirmary, who was also present, was proposed for the vacant Vice-Chairmanship, and accepted office, and the following ladies were elected members of the Executive Committee, to fill the vacancies caused by the annual retirement of five members:—

Miss Butler, Matron of the Samaritan Free Hospital, Marylebone Road.

Miss Marquardt, Matron of the Camberwell Infirmary.

Miss Barling, Matron of the Kidderminster Infirmary and Children's Hospital.

Miss Polden, Matron of the Royal United Hospital, Bath.

Miss Kinnear Adams, Matron of the Ruchill Fever Hospital, Glasgow.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters of regret at inability to attend were reported from Miss Ross (Fulham), Miss Elma Smith (Hendon), Miss Pell Smith (Leicester), Miss Hay Forbes (Bath), Miss Barling (Kidderminster), Miss Shirley (Stoke-on-Trent), Miss Mawe (Weston-super-Mare), Miss Macintyre (Wigan), Miss Mellor (Wellington), Miss Traiforos (Macclesfield), Miss Cartwright (Brighton), Miss Greenlaw (Newport, Mon.), Miss Hurlbatt (Dorchester), Miss K. Burleigh (Edinburgh), Miss Bradshaw (Dublin), and since the meeting letters to the same effect have been received by the Hon. Secretary from Miss Payne (Children's

Hospital, Great Ormond Street), Miss Shipley (Fulham), and Miss Rogers (Leicester).

A letter from Miss Shirley asking advice on a point of professional importance was read and discussed, and an answer authorised. A letter was also considered from Miss Mary Burr (Hon. Secretary of the League of St. John's House Nurses), asking (unofficially) the steps to be taken by Nurses' Leagues desirous of affiliation in a National League of Certificated Nurses, in order that she might be in a position to give information on the subject if required. A letter was also read, *re* the Registration of Nurses, from Mrs. Groves (Member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Nurses), Bristol. The Hon. Secretary was directed to reply to both these letters.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Applications for membership were then considered and accepted from:—

Miss Mulvany, Matron, the Infirmary and Dispensary, Bolton.

Mrs. Lockett, Matron, the Hospital, Gap Road, Wimbledon.

Miss Bushby, Matron, the Isolation Hospital, Millbrook, Southampton.

Miss Ballantyne, Matron, The New Infirmary, Southampton.

NURSING IN THE NAVY.

In view of the statement that Inspector-General Henry C. Woods, M.D., M.V.O., K.H.P. (retired), late of the Royal Yacht, who was last July appointed to H.M.S. "President" for service at the Admiralty, has been engaged in preparing a scheme for an increase of the nursing staff in H.M.'s ships and naval hospitals in time of war or of national emergency, and that a reserve of naval nurses, male and female, is to be established, it was decided to forward to the Earl of Selborne, First Lord of the Admiralty, a copy of the Memorandum presented by a Deputation from the Matrons' Council to the Admiralty in 1900.

THE MIDWIVES' BILL.

Letters from Mr. Heywood Johnstone, M.P., and Mr. Colin Campbell, M.R.C.S., in reference to the Midwives' Bill, were then read and discussed.

The Hon. Secretary reported that, as directed, she had sent the Resolution passed at the last meeting, dealing with the defenceless position in which it was proposed to place Midwives by Mr. Heywood Johnstone's Midwives' Bill, to Societies interested, and that she had received acknowledgements from the General Medical Council, the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland, the Women's Local Government Society, the Lady Balfour of Burleigh (President), and the Secretary of the Association for Promoting the Compulsory Registra-

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