

vote in accordance with the policy of the Society, she recorded her vote for the important Resolution proposed by the President of the Congress in favour of the State Registration of Nurses.

Since her return Miss Mollett has attended a meeting of the Council and presented an admirable Report of the proceedings.

DEPUTATION TO THE WAR OFFICE.

On April 2nd, a Deputation from the Matrons' Council was received by the Secretary of State for War, and was accorded a courteous hearing. On behalf of the Council, the President, Miss Isla Stewart, read and presented a Memorandum embodying the views of the Council on Army Nursing Reform. The most important suggestion made was that of "the need of the formation of a Nursing Department, in affiliation with the Medical Department, at the War Office, superintended by a fully trained and experienced administrative nursing officer." It is subject for congratulation that this, and the majority of the suggestions made by the Matrons' Council, have been incorporated in the Report presented by the Committee appointed by Mr. Brodrick to consider the reorganisation of the Army Nursing Service.

BRITISH CONGRESS ON TUBERCULOSIS.

On the invitation of the Convening Committee a Delegate was appointed to attend the British Congress on Tuberculosis held in London in July. Miss Todd, Matron of the National Sanatorium for Consumption, Bournemouth, kindly consented to act in this capacity, and subsequently presented a most interesting Report of the proceedings, which demonstrated the success and usefulness of the Congress and the impetus given to the closer investigation of the cause of tuberculosis.

At the same time Miss Todd placed on record, with regret, the fact that no representative of the Nursing Profession was among the speakers at any of the meetings, or an invited participator in the discussions, while "every other body of workers, such as those of public health, chemical and veterinary science, connected, however remotely with medicine, had representatives, who contributed to the debates as experts in their own subjects, and who watched the proceedings in the interests of the various societies who had nominated them.

The need of such a nursing expert was specially felt in the State and Municipal Section when the necessity of teaching the community at large the importance of light, ventilation, fresh air, and cleanliness, as prophylactic measures against disease was greatly urged, and the difficulties of doing so discussed. None of the speakers seemed to realise how much is already done in this way by our magnificent organisations of district and

parish nurses, whose work brings them into touch with the poor in their very homes." Miss Todd pointed out in conclusion that the carrying into effect of the various resolutions passed by the Congress must very largely depend upon the loyal co-operation of members of the nursing profession.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Miss Hay Forbes acted as the Delegate of the Council to the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, to which the Council is affiliated, held in London in October, and to the Conference on Rural Housing, which was held the following day. She also drew up full Reports of the proceedings on both days which have been received by the Council and placed on the minutes.

The Reports of the various meetings thus presented are of great value, and have been much appreciated. They embody in a succinct form the accounts of proceedings in which the Matrons' Council is directly interested, but which it is impossible that many of the members should attend owing to their absence from town, and the claims of their professional work.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

The Constitution of a National Council of Nurses has been defined in the following resolution:—

"That the National Council of Nurses be formed of the Hon. Officers of the Matrons' Council and of the National League of Certificated Nurses, in equal proportions of at least twelve representatives of each body."

REVISION OF BYE-LAW IV.

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee the revision of Bye-Law IV., defining the qualification for membership, was considered, and it was amended as follows:—

"Women who are, or have been, Matrons of Hospitals and Superintendents of Nursing Institutions, who are Trained Nurses, shall be eligible for election as members by the Council in General Meeting assembled, the election shall be by a majority of two-thirds of the members present."

(To be continued.)

A Much Needed Holiday.

The numerous friends of Miss Annie Speck, the much-esteemed Matron of Chichester Infirmary, will learn with regret that she is at present far from strong in health, and in order that she may try the benefits of a complete change, the Governors have granted her six months' leave of absence. During the three and a half years that Miss Speck has been at Chichester she has rendered valuable service to the institution.

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