

would like also to say a word about the unanimity which prevailed in the League under Miss Stewart's presidency. Differences of opinion there had been many in the Executive, but these were expressed in a friendly, kindly, and courteous manner. All those present knew and loved Miss Stewart so well that it was unnecessary to dilate on her virtues. She (Mrs. Spencer) felt extremely honoured in proposing that Miss Stewart should be re-elected as President. The proposition was seconded by Sister Mark, and carried by acclamation.

Miss Stewart, in accepting the position, said it was one which she would be extremely sorry to resign.

Mrs. Howard Marsh was then re-elected Vice-President, and Mrs. Dyall appointed Hon. Treasurer, and Mrs. Wates Hon. Secretary.

Miss Stewart said that there would be general regret at the resignations of such able officers as the present Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. She thought the reason was that they felt it a good thing for the officers to change from time to time, and so to enlist fresh interests.

ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The following Executive was then appointed, on the proposition of Miss Edith Pretty, seconded by Mrs. Turnbull:—

Sister Casualty, Sister Charity, Miss Cox-Davies, Miss Barling, Miss Cutler, Miss Finch, Miss Hare, Miss Hedges, Miss Beatrice Jones, Miss Helen Todd, Miss West, Mrs. De Segundo.

CONSTITUTION AND BYE-LAWS.

The Constitution and Bye-laws were then, with some slight alterations, adopted.

In the Constitution a fourth object was added to those already sanctioned by the League, namely, "To further as far as possible the professional interests of nurses."

The principal alterations in the Bye-laws were:—

1. On the proposition of Miss Lucy Walker, the *League News* will in future be published in January and July, so that the reports of recent League meetings may be included.

2. The Journal Committee was eliminated on the appointment of the Editor and Sub-Editor.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

The next business was the consideration of the Benevolent Schemes. Ultimately the following was drawn up for the consideration of the members and adopted:—

It is desired to form a Benevolent Fund for the benefit of any Nurses of St. Bartholomew's Hospital who are in distressed circumstances.

It is hoped that the fund will find willing supporters amongst those who appreciate the work of Nurses, and that contributions will be made by the Nurses themselves, particularly by those who are enrolled as members of this League.

It is proposed that relief be afforded by means of—

I. Gifts to relieve temporary distress.

II. Loans, without interest, in cases where such a method of assistance appears desirable.

It is suggested that the Administrative Body should consist of the President and twelve members of the League, four of whom shall be members of, and appointed by, the Executive Committee, and eight of whom shall be appointed by the members at the General Meeting. This Committee shall appoint an Hon. Secretary, who shall also undertake the duties of Treasurer.

This Committee shall have power to generally manage the affairs of the Fund and to decide how applications for relief shall be made.

This concluded the proceedings, which were most animated throughout. Amongst those who took part in the discussions were Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mrs. Spencer, Sister Mark, Miss Rogers, Miss Beatrice Jones, Miss Waind, Miss Pretty, Mrs. Turnbull, Miss Todd, Miss West, Mrs. Gray, Miss Rumbolt, Miss Lucy Walker, Sister Casualty, Mrs. Lancelot Andrews, Miss Cartwright, Miss Cox-Davies, Miss Cutler, Miss Kingsford, Mrs. Tennant, Miss Sleigh, Miss Bourne, Miss Barton, Miss Banfield, Sister Surgery, and others.

At the close of the business meeting the members adjourned to discuss the excellent tea and coffee, dainty cakes, and inviting fruit salads provided for their consumption, temptingly arranged on tables beautifully decorated with bright summer flowers. The President, most genial of hostesses, received the guests invited to this social gathering, and many friendships were renewed and items of nursing and other interest discussed over the tea-cups. As we said good-bye at last to friends old and new, we wondered what Bart.'s ever did without its Nurses' League!

The Irish Coronation Fund.

A special meeting of the hon. secretaries and hon. treasurers—all of whom are men—of the Coronation National Fund for Nurses in Ireland has been held, and many influential men were present.

We have no desire to criticise the motives (which are no doubt of a generous nature) which have inspired the suggestion of pensioning Irish nurses as a Coronation charity. But we very emphatically state that, unless the leading Irish matrons and nurses are invited to take an active practical part in organising such a fund, it is to be feared that it will not commend itself to the profession in Ireland. The very greatest care will have to be taken to prevent this fund from assuming a purely charitable, and therefore a demoralising, nature. Let the experienced matrons be consulted, and a plan may be evolved which will carry out the kind intentions of the initiators and yet not rouse antagonism in the minds of nurses, who naturally resent being held up as objects of charity. We have already

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