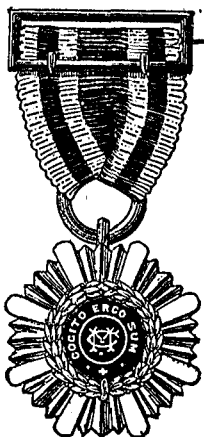


The Matrons' Council.

ANNUAL REPORT.



Summary for the year ending December 31st, 1903.

NEW MEMBERS.

During the past year fourteen applications for membership have been accepted by the Council. The new members are :—

Miss Gaved Wills, Lady Superintendent, The Hospital, Newark-on-Trent.

Miss Mayne, Matron, County Infirmary, Limerick.

Miss Helen Cameron, now Matron of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, E.C.

Miss Kate Hunt, Lady Superintendent, Nurses' Home, Ipswich.

Miss Irene Webb, Matron, Borough Isolation Hospital, Leicester.

Miss C. Alice Barling, Matron, Borough Sanatorium, Folkestone.

Miss Emmie Dreyer, Matron, Evan Fraser Hospital, Sutton, Hull.

Miss Florence Kidd, Lady Superintendent, Stockton and Thornaby District Nursing Association, Stockton-on-Tees.

Miss Margaret Burgess, Matron, Borough Sanatorium, St. Helen's, Lancs.

Miss E. A. Wilkinson, Matron, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.

Miss C. C. Trafford, Matron, City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, E.

Miss E. M. Waing, Superintendent of Trained Nurses' Association, Galen House, Guildford.

Miss C. A. Nicolson, Matron, Government Hospital, Barberton, Transvaal, Hon. Serving Sister of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

Miss M. E. O'Connor, Matron, Napier Hospital, New Zealand, registered under the New Zealand Act, and a member of the Matrons' Council of New South Wales.

RESOLUTIONS.

The resolutions passed by the Matrons' Council during the year, and forwarded to Government Departments, medical bodies, and others, have dealt with the subject of State Registration for Trained Nurses, the Qualified Nurse, and other nursing questions of current interest.

STATE REGISTRATION.

The work of the promotion of State Registration for Trained Nurses, one of the original objects of the Matrons' Council, developed to such an extent that it quite outgrew the limits of a sub-committee appointed to deal with it, with the result that the

Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses was founded in 1902. With Miss Louisa Stevenson as President, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick at the helm as Hon. Secretary, the work of this Society has made itself widely felt, and the fruit of the hard work of many members of the Matrons' Council is that a Bill which is influentially backed is to be introduced into the House of Commons in the coming Session by Dr. R. Farquharson, Member for West Aberdeenshire.

A COURSE OF HOSPITAL ECONOMICS.

Early in the year the Matrons' Council addressed a letter to the Council of Bedford College for Women setting before that body the value of a course of further instruction for certificated nurses desirous of qualifying themselves for the higher posts in their profession. The suggestion was cordially received, and Miss Stewart, as President of the Matrons' Council, with Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, as Senior Councillor, by the invitation of Bedford College subsequently attended a meeting of its Board of Education to confer with it on the subject. Later, the Principal of the College, Miss Ethel Hurlbatt, wrote that her Council greatly appreciated and sympathised with the Matrons' Council in their desire to see improved the education of the members of a great profession for women, and were glad to think that we should have sought the help of the College with a view to furthering this object. The College proposed to circulate to Matrons, hospital committees, and nursing societies information of their existing hygiene course, and were of opinion that a year would be well spent in obtaining further evidence as to the readiness of the nursing world to seek the co-operation of the College.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Annual Conference of the Council was held in May, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, at 20, Hanover Square, London, W., Miss Louisa Stevenson presiding.

The following papers were presented :—

"Registration, as it affects General Hospitals," by Miss Isla Stewart, President of the Matrons' Council.

"Registration as it affects Poor Law Infirmaries," by Miss E. C. Barton.

"Registration as it affects Special Hospitals," by Mrs. Matthews.

"Registration as it affects the Graduate Nurse," by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

"Registration from the Point of View of a State Registered Nurse," by Miss Janet Speed, of New Zealand.

A resolution was passed authorising the Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses to draft a Bill for discussion, such Bill, after approval by the members of the Society, to be submitted to hospital committees, medical and nurs-

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