

The Select Committee on Nursing.

The members of the Select Committee on Nursing met in Room 17 of the House of Commons, at twelve o'clock on Tuesday, and proceeded to define their procedure of business. Mr. H. J. Tennant was elected chairman, and Mr. F. Williams Wynn secretary of the Committee. It was arranged that the meetings of the Committee should be held twice a week—on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 12 to 2 p.m. As we go to press the first meeting of the Committee is being held, Dr. Bedford Fenwick being the first witness to give evidence. All who are desirous of giving evidence before the Committee should communicate with the Secretary at the House of Commons.

Appointments.

MATRONS.

Miss Annie Watt has been appointed Matron of Novers Hill Hospital, Bristol. She was trained at Middle Ward Hospital, Motherwell, and the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and has also been Sister-in-Charge at the Small pox Hospital, Bellshill, Lanark.

Miss Margaret Traill has been appointed Matron of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford. She was trained from 1893 to 1896 and certificated at Guy's Hospital, held the position of Sister there, and Night Superintendent at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Edinburgh. Miss Traill also holds a certificate for monthly nursing and L.O.S. certificate, and the Guy's Hospital medal.

ASSISTANT MATRONS.

Miss Gertrude Binning has been appointed Assistant Matron of the Ayr District Asylum. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

Miss Caroline Gollidge has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Ham Green Isolation Hospital, Bristol. She was trained at Crumpsall Infirmary, Manchester, and has also been Sister at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, Charge Nurse at Ham Green Hospital, and Sister at Crumpsall Infirmary.

Miss Jessie E. Ives has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Plaistow Fever Hospital. She was trained at Plaistow and at the London Hospital. She has also held the position of Sister at the Plaistow Fever Hospital.

Miss Kate Florence Keeping has been appointed second Assistant Matron at the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum. She was trained at Southwark Infirmary, East Dulwich, and has been Housekeeper at the Western Fever Hospital, and Ward Sister and Night Superintendent at the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum.

The International Council of Nurses.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, presiding. On the afternoon of June 17th the Council met to receive Reports from Affiliated Countries—

1. On Legislation effected for Trained Nurses:
 - (a) By State Registration, and (b) under Government Departments in the Army and Navy.
2. On Education.

In opening the session the President said that the only countries in which the Naval and Military Nursing Services are organised in connection with the respective Navy and Army Governmental Departments were Great Britain and the United States of America. The authorities of the Admiralty in Great Britain had been communicated with, and a report on nursing in connection with the Royal Naval Service invited. A reply was received that "Nurses of hospitals at the Home Posts have all been consulted, and the reports received show that there is no member of the Nursing Service who desires to present a paper."

Nothing, the President said, could prove more conclusively the need for a modern system of organisation in the Royal Naval Nursing Service than the fact that there was apparently not a woman in it who appreciated the importance of international comparison and conference.

Mrs. Fenwick reported further that invitations were sent in February to the Matron-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and to the Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps in the United States, inviting these ladies to contribute reports on legislation effected for trained nurses in the respective Army Nursing Services of these countries.

Almost by return of post a courteous reply was received from the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, acceding to our wishes that a report might be furnished by Mrs. Dita H. Kinney, the head of the Army Nurse Corps.

An official reply was received six weeks later from the English War Office, to which the request had been referred, when the Secretary of the Army Council stated that he was commanded to acquaint the Organising Committee "that the Matron-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, will be pleased to afford the fullest information on any subject connected with the Service to any delegate whom you may be pleased to appoint for that purpose."

This was, in fact, said Mrs. Fenwick, a polite way of refusing our request. She added that the attitudes of the British and American War Offices forcibly illustrate the diverse methods by which the Government Departments of a young and progres

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