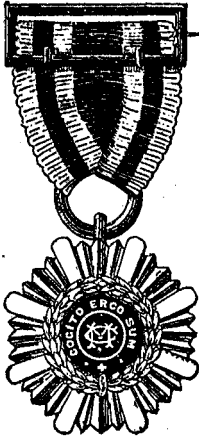


## The Matrons' Council.



The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council was held at 431, Oxford Street on Friday, March 9th, at 4 p.m. The proceedings were, as usual, preceded by the informal and friendly tea which forms one of the pleasant features of Matrons' Council Meetings. The President, Miss Isla Stewart, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

Letters and telegrams of regret at inability to attend were reported by the Hon. Secretary from Miss M. Heather-Bigg, Miss E. Kingsford, and Miss G. B.

Macvitie, London; Miss E. M. Roberts, Wimbledon; Miss A. Barling, Kidderminster; Miss K. V. Macintyre, Wigan; Miss M. Deane, Ipswich; Miss Pell Smith, Leicester; Miss Winifred Plum, Folkestone; Miss K. Richmond, Birmingham; Miss S. Wingfield, Macclesfield; Mrs. Bridges, Brighton; Miss Buckingham, Rotherham; Miss E. C. Mellor, Lancaster; Miss B. L. Greenlaw, Newport; Miss Kinnear Adams, Glasgow; and Miss L. Newman, Belfast.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

The correspondence laid before the meeting included letters from Mr. H. J. Tennant, M.P.; from Miss H. L. Pearse, Matron Great Northern Central Hospital, accepting office as a delegate of the Council on the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses; from Dr. Robert Jones, Secretary of the Medical-Psychological Association; from the Secretary of the National Union of Women Workers on behalf of the Executive Committee; and from Miss Barton, Hon. Secretary of the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses, reporting that it had been decided to postpone the Nursing Exhibit until the autumn, and also that it was proposed to hold a Reception in May, each affiliated Society being invited to appoint a delegate on the Reception Committee. Miss Stewart was unanimously appointed the Delegate of the Matrons' Council.

### ANNUAL REPORT.

The Hon. Secretary then read the Annual Report for the consideration of the members. This was unanimously adopted on the proposition of Miss Mollett, seconded by Miss J. A. Smith.

### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Applications for membership were then considered. The following applicants have been appointed members of the Council:—

Miss Millicent Sargeant, Matron, the Hospital, Devizes.

Miss M. B. Clark, Matron, the Hospital, Mortlake.

Miss Marianne Lillie, Matron, the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

Miss Mina Gibson Cowan, Matron, King's Norton Union Infirmary, Selly Oak, Birmingham.

Miss A. E. Roberts, Matron, the Hospital, Llanelly.

Miss A. M. Hay, Matron, Private Surgical Hospital, Cardiff.

Miss Marguerite Wright, Matron, Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow.

Miss Elisabeth C. von Stioylitz, Lady Superintendent, the Hospital, Newry, co. Down, Ireland.

Miss Charlotte R. Mill, Lady Superintendent, St. George's Hospital, Bombay.

Miss Jane Winifred Thorpe, Sister-in-Charge and Superintendent of Nursing, Memorial Hospital, Ludhiana, India, Hon. Secretary of Association of Nursing Superintendents of the United Provinces and Punjab.

### THE FUTURE ORGANISATION OF THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.

The President then asked Mrs. Bedford Fenwick to report to the meeting the present position of the political campaign.

Mrs. Fenwick said that as the Bill of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses incorporated provisions not contained in the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Nursing, she had asked Mr. H. J. Tennant, M.P., Chairman of that Committee, if it would be possible for some Matrons to have an interview with Members of the House of Commons interested in the Bill. Mr. Tennant most kindly arranged an interview at the House of Commons with himself, Lord Morpeth and Sir John Batty Tuke, and they listened to the views expressed on the three points of the Central Examination, the size of the Central Nursing Council and the Registration fee. Mr. Tennant subsequently was good enough to secure the consent of the Earl of Crewe, Lord President of the Privy Council, to receive a Deputation on the subject of the State Registration of Trained Nurses. The Deputation attended at the Privy Council Office on Thursday, March 8th, and after listening to the arguments advanced, Lord Crewe replied in an able manner, showing that he understood the question, and also that he was sympathetic with the suggested legislation.

Acting on Lord Crewe's suggestion, it was now considered advisable that the Bill should be introduced into the House of Lords.

Mrs. Fenwick also stated that Lord Crewe had mentioned the desirability of having one Bill. The Fundamental Principles at stake as incorporated in the Bill of the State Registration Society were fully discussed, and Miss Stewart was authorised to report the discussion to Mr. Tennant and Mr. Munro Ferguson.

The meeting then terminated.

MARGARET BREAY,  
Hon. Secretary Matrons' Council.

The danger of employing pauper attendants in connection with the nursing of the sick was exemplified recently at a Rochdale inquest. A nurse at the Rochdale Workhouse Infirmary was applying methylated spirit to a patient's back when an inmate, who was assisting, struck a match to light his pipe. The spirit ignited, and the death of the patient occurred shortly afterwards.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)