

Since the last-mentioned Training Home was opened, more than 700 nurses have been trained and supplied to districts all over Scotland applying for the services of a Queen's Nurse for their sick poor. The number of probationers which the Scottish Council can at present train in a year is thirty-eight, but this is no longer sufficient to supply the demand throughout the country, and it is on this account that it has become necessary to appeal to the public for funds to enable the Council to enlarge the Training Home and meet the cost of the increased number of probationers. There are now 327 Queen's Nurses at work in Scotland, and for the regular inspection of these the Scottish Council is responsible. This inspection involves very considerable expense, which is always increasing with the employment of more Queen's Nurses throughout the country.

The Annual Meeting of the Ulster Branch of the Irish Nurses' Association was held at the Association's Club Room in Belfast on Friday afternoon, the 5th June. Over 40 members attended. Lady Hermione Blackwood, President of the Branch, was in the chair. Miss Workman, Hon. Secretary, read the Annual Report, and presented the financial statement for the past year. These were put to the meeting and adopted. Before proceeding to the election of the new office-bearers for the year, Miss Duffin asked to be allowed to move a resolution. She said that by the rules of the Society, the President was expected to retire at the end of the year, and to be succeeded in that office by the Vice-President. On this occasion, however, the Vice-President of the past year, Miss Bostock, Matron of the Royal Victoria Hospital, owing to press of work, did not feel equal to undertaking the duties of the President's office, and, therefore, at the request of all the Matrons, she (Miss Duffin) begged to propose that Lady Hermione Blackwood be asked to retain the Presidency of the Branch permanently. This resolution was seconded by Miss Lancaster, and passed.

Miss Ormerod, Superintendent of the Nightingale Nursing Home, then proposed that for the future two Vice-Presidents be elected annually, and that Miss Newman, Matron of the Frederick Street Nurses' Home, and Miss Mildred, Matron of the Throne Hospital, be elected for the coming year. She also proposed that Miss Newman and Miss White be re-elected as financial committee. Both these resolutions were seconded by Mrs. Campbell,

of the District Nurses' Home, and were passed unanimously.

Miss Lancaster, Queen's Nurse at Holywood, Co. Down, then proposed that the members should form an Entertainment Committee amongst themselves, and read a list of names of members willing to join this Committee. This was seconded by Miss Tate, Matron of the Ulster Hospital for Women and Children, and carried.

The President then addressed the meeting. She said that the Association was to be congratulated on the report. There had been an addition of 60 new members during the new year, and the branch now numbered 145. A club room had been opened where members could meet their friends, have tea, and see all the nursing papers. This room had not so far been used as much as had been expected by the members, but had been a most useful centre for lectures and Committee meetings. The opening of the club room was a very definite piece of work, but it was of little importance as compared with other work the Association had been able to do. It must always be remembered that the main object of the existence of the Association was to enable the members to further the interests of the profession as a whole, and not for the good individuals themselves might obtain from it. During the past year, the Association had passed and sent a resolution in favour of State Registration, to the late Prime Minister, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman; it had sent a resolution to Mr. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, deploring the action of the Metropolitan Asylums Board in proposing to degrade their Matrons from first to second class officers; and it had sent a resolution to Lord Ampthill, protesting against the proposed Nurses' Directory Bill.

Every member might feel proud to think that she had, through her Association, had a share in the defeat of the last two proposals. The necessity and the obligations nurses were under to join Societies that were fighting in their interests was becoming daily more apparent. The President then spoke of the Society for State Registration, and said that though most nurses one met were in favour of State Registration, they failed to realise that their private opinions carried no weight, and found no real expression, and it was only by joining such Societies as these that they could make their opinions known and respected. She

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