

Miss H. L. Pearse, and seconded by Miss Buxton.

The Chairman pointed out that the title was an inclusive one, and that the L.C.C. School Nurses who had taken the initiative need not restrict membership to their own body, but might, if they chose, invite other School Nurses to associate with them. This would enlarge the scope of the League, and might in time gather in all the nurses working in the same branch, and make it a very influential and useful organisation.

Miss Pearse proposed that they should take power to invite other School Nurses, besides those whose duties were chiefly in the elementary schools, especially those working amongst the physically defective children, and she hoped that School Nurses working in different centres would ask for affiliation as the League became known.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

It was decided that the honorary officers should be two—a President and Secretary-Treasurer—and upon the Chairman inviting nominations for the Presidency the whole audience appeared to nominate Miss H. L. Pearse, who, having signified her willingness to accept office, was enthusiastically elected, upon the proposal of Miss Heathcote, seconded by Miss Parkman.

Miss Pearse then proposed Miss Griffin, who, she said, had been of great assistance to her in connection with the preliminary arrangements, for the position of Secretary-Treasurer. This was seconded by Miss F. Smith, it appeared a very popular appointment, and it was carried unanimously. Miss Griffin signified her willingness to accept office.

The following ladies were then deputed to act with the hon. officers as a provisional Executive Committee:—Miss Gilbert, Miss Heathcote, Miss Howard, Miss Layton, Miss Parfitt, and Miss Parkman.

#### AN OFFICIAL ORGAN.

The next question considered was the means of official communication, so that the members might keep in touch with one another and the profession at large. Miss Stewart said as there appeared to be no desire to incur the considerable expense and work entailed by the issue of an official organ, no doubt, if asked, the Editor or the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING would be pleased to provide space in which to report the news and work of the League. It was already the official organ of some of the largest and most important nurses' societies in the Kingdom, and the European organ of the International Council of Nurses. Moreover, the past history of this Journal, edited and owned by nurses, had proved the courage and good faith of its policy, standing alone as it had, for twenty years, for professional ideals; high professional standards, efficient education, and organisation by the State, thus providing rightful protection for trained nurses and the sick.

Miss Pearse endorsed Miss Stewart's views, and said from the woman's standpoint, as well as the nurses', the Journal was worthy of all support. She proposed that the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING should be adopted as the official organ of the School Nurses' League. This was seconded, and when put

to the meeting the resolution was carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fenwick said that she felt sure that the Nursing Press—the company composed of nurses which owned the Journal—would accede to the request. Everything about the conduct of the Journal was open and straightforward. The names of the editor and the eminent professional editorial staff appeared in black and white in each issue. Organisation and professional unity, sound educational and industrial conditions for nurses, State Registration by Act of Parliament, and self-government had always been, and would continue to be, the avowed policy of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, as apart from commercial gain and lay control. She assured the School Nurses that their happiness and well being, and the furtherance of their splendid work for the children of London would be for the future a leading feature in the paper's policy.

#### AFFILIATION TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

Miss Pearse then asked if those present were in favour of affiliation to the National Council of Nurses, and when the feeling of the meeting had been expressed in the affirmative, she proposed affiliation in a definite resolution, which was seconded by Miss Hughes and carried unanimously.

This concluded the business in regard to the foundation of the League. The Chairman congratulated those present on the keen and intelligent interest they had taken in the proceedings, and upon the sound professional basis on which they had founded the School Nurses' League.

#### STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

Mrs. Fenwick then gave a short account of the movement for the State Registration of Nurses, and pointed out that all professions for men are defined and organised, as they find that they cannot conduct their professional work in the best interests of the public without the force of the law behind them. A disorganised mob of class workers was a public danger. She emphasised the necessity for a definite standard of theoretical and practical education for nurses, to include the higher grade of matron. It was expedient that women appointed as heads of training schools should give evidence of fitness for their important duties. These reforms could only be effected by an Act of Parliament, and to get this great question taken up by the Government, and carried to a happy conclusion, the help of every individual nurse was required. She invited the earnest support of the School Nurses' League.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Fenwick for her hospitality and conduct of business. Many points of interest were afterwards discussed informally, and hopes expressed that all might meet again in the near future.

#### THE NURSES' HOSTEL.

There must be something radically wrong in the organisation of the Nurses' Hostel in Francis Street, W.C. Miss Chamberlain and Miss Rignall are both to leave, and we hear that another official has resigned. We suggest the Directors should invite two or three capable Matrons to inspect the institution and advise on its future management.

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