

League News.



The School Nurses' League held their first Annual Meeting on January 20th, at 431, Oxford Street, W.

Miss H. L. Pearse, President, was in the chair, and there was a large attendance.

A satisfactory statement was presented by the Secretary-Treasurer, both as to the growth of the League and its finances. The latter showed a balance in hand, an announcement which was greeted with cheers.

Miss Phillips, Miss Wade, and Miss Williams were elected to succeed the retiring members on the Executive Committee, and Miss Parkman was elected Treasurer, the business of the League having become too much for one hard-worked Secretary.

A discussion then took place as to the advisability of founding a League Benevolent Fund. Three-fourths of those present being in favour of the proposal, it was decided to start the Fund forthwith.

The President then said their League had always been strongly in favour of State Registration for Nurses, and they flattered themselves that they understood the need for it extremely well. The members of the League were drawn from a great variety of training schools, and came much in touch with the public especially with such an excellent section as the teachers in schools. Of these, all those to whom she had spoken, were in favour of registration, and recognised the value it would be to those who employed nurses.

Now was the time—when the Registration Bill would again be introduced into Parliament—to show how strong their feeling was in favour of it by passing unanimously a Resolution, and getting all the signatures they could to support it.

The following Resolution was then proposed by Miss Macleod, trained at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, and seconded by Miss Layton, trained at the London Hospital, E.:—

RESOLUTION.

“We, the undersigned, have learnt with deep satisfaction that the Nurses' Registration Bill, introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Ampthill, was read a third time and passed on November 10th last, without a division, and that their Lordships have thereby accepted the principle of the Bill that the public are entitled to a guarantee of a Registered Nurse's efficiency, and we are unanimously and most cordially in favour of such legislation. We confidently, therefore, appeal to the Government to accord the Nurses' Registration Bill their most earnest and sympathetic support.

For the sake of the important interests involved, and for the protection of the public and greater benefit of the sick, we most respectfully and earnestly appeal for consideration of the Nurses' Registration Bill in the House of Commons during the coming Session.”

Nine new members of the School Nurses' League were then enrolled, and eight members filled in forms of application for membership of the Society for State Registration.

VOTE OF THANKS TO SISTER CARTWRIGHT.

At the close of the proceedings a vote of thanks was cordially given to Sister Cartwright for the excellent teas she had always provided for the League, at so small a cost; and for the kind manner in which she and her helpers had presided at them.

The meeting then terminated.

L. M. GRIFFIN, *Secretary.*

School Nurses who are not on the London County Council staff are eligible as members of the School Nurses' League, and the President has replied to enquiries on this point that such nurses will be heartily welcomed as members.

The London County Council recently appointed as Assistant Superintendents, Miss Phillips and Miss Parkman, and increased the staff by 16 additional nurses, some of whom have not yet taken up their duties.

School nursing is admitted by all to be one of the most important factors in the public school system. To meet the situation shown by a report on underfed school children in Chicago last September, forty nurses were immediately put to work to co-operate with and follow out the suggestions of the school physicians. The emergency appropriation made for the purpose by the City Council maintained the nurses until January 1st. The question of making their work permanent must now be answered, and if the vigorous public sentiment which has arisen has its way the answer will be emphatically that the city can afford to take no backward step.

The Midwives' Act Committee.

The second meeting of the Committee was held in the Board Room at the Privy Council Office on Wednesday, the 20th inst. Mr. Almeric FitzRoy, C.V.O., the Clerk of the Council, was in the chair, and all the members were present. Mr. G. W. Duncan, the Secretary of the Central Midwives' Board, attended and gave evidence on behalf of that Board. We regret that the Committee have decided that the proceedings are to be private.

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