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Nursing in 1910.

The year just closing is one across which the shadow of death lies heavily, and we have had to record with sorrow the passing of great leaders in our profession, both at home and abroad; it is also one in which events of great importance to the nursing profession have taken place.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES.

The National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland is slowly and surely becoming consolidated, and now includes 16 self-governing societies of nurses, with a combined membership of nearly 6,000. During the year two new Leagues have been affiliated with it, viz., the Cleveland Street Branch and the Hendon Branch of the Central London Sick Asylum Nurses' League. One of the most important pieces of work undertaken by the Council has been the formation of an International Nursing Library, through which it is hoped to provide a record of the evolution of trained nursing in the various countries for future generations of nurses.

At its annual meeting in November the Council gave its hearty approval to the Reunion and Nursing Masque to be held in London in February next in support of the Nurses' Registration Bill, and the delegates of the constituent Societies present agreed, on their behalf, to do all in their power to make the scheme a success, and the Reunion will be held under its authority.

In the National Council the nurses of the United Kingdom possess a Society in which they can take counsel together, which, through its Standing Committees, concentrate and can pass on expert information concerning the various branches of nursing, and through which they can enter into professional relations with the organised nurses of other countries by affiliation with the International Council of Nurses.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

The work of the International Council of Nurses is steadily increasing, and already there is a likelihood of several new Na-

tional Councils—Sweden, New Zealand, Japan, Cuba, and India—applying for admission to membership at Cologne in 1912, thus the *Nursing Journal of India* states: "One of the first duties of our Trained Nurses' Association will be to seek admission to the International Council of Nurses."

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The Matrons' Council has sustained an irreparable loss in the death of its President and Founder, the late Miss Isla Stewart, who consistently used her great influence and talents in support of freedom of co-operation among Matrons and nurses.

The new President, Miss M. Heather-Bigg, Matron of Charing Cross Hospital, whose election was unanimous, was one of the earliest members of the Council, and it could not have made a happier selection.

At the instance of Miss Mollett, Hon. Secretary, a new departure was made by holding the summer meeting of the Council in the provinces. At the invitation of Miss Musson, the Council met in July at the General Hospital, Birmingham, where the members had the pleasure of meeting many of their colleagues in the Midland Counties. The following papers of practical interest have been presented to the Council during the year:—"Hospital Kitchens," Miss E. M. Musson; "Hospital Laundries," Miss Helen Todd; and "The Supply of Probationers," by Miss Mollett.

It has been decided that the Council shall hold meetings in the provinces during each summer.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF NURSES.

In other directions there is evidence of the desire for co-operation. The Poor Law Infirmary Matrons have their own Association and hold regular meetings, and the Fever Nurses' Association, combining Matrons, nurses, and medical practitioners, is organising the nurses trained in infectious hospitals. The Superintendents working in connection with Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute have also professional Associations in which they take counsel together.

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