

## THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF TRAINED NURSES.

A meeting of the above society, the members of which are scattered over Scotland, was held in Perth last week. Founded in March, the Society has, as its object, the promotion of the interest of Scottish nurses; the encouragement of a spirit of mutual help and unity among nurses; the promotion of the discussion of questions connected with the training and work of nurses; the promotion by every means in its power of the efficient nursing of the sick; and the welfare of Scottish hospitals' training schools, special hospitals and kindred institutions. The Constitution and Laws having been read and adopted, office-bearers and executive council were elected, Miss Alexander, Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, being appointed President pro. tem.; and Miss E. A. Stevenson, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. A number of ladies, all of whom have held important positions as Matrons or Superintendent of Nurses in Scotland, were, subject to their acceptance, elected Honorary Members. The adoption of a Badge has been a proposal much favoured by members, and several very handsome designs have been executed by a member. It was remitted to the Council to make enquiries and draw up suitable rules.

As closely connected with the interest of nursing, the National Insurance Bill was under consideration. In view of the grave danger which may be incurred by insured persons, and the hardship and injustice to trained nurses should partially trained and consequently unskilled workers be employed as "nurses" under the Act, Miss Stevenson said she would move, as an amendment to Clause 17, that the words "fully trained" be inserted before the words "district nurses," and before "nurses for the purpose of visiting insured persons." All the same, there was no legal definition of the term "nurse," and, as there was no legalised standard of training, it was questionable how far the words "fully trained" would prove effective. After considerable discussion, it was the opinion of the meeting that Clause 17 involves the whole question of the sick, nurses and hospitals, in wide directions and vital points, and it was agreed to take no action in the matter. The place of meeting for the Annual Conference of 1912 was remitted to the Council.

### THE PRESIDENT.

In honouring Miss Alexander, of the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, the members of the Scottish Society of Trained Nurses have honoured themselves. Miss Alexander has the good fortune to be Matron of a beautiful and up-to-date hospital, in which she and her nurses uphold the best traditions of nursing. Miss Alexander believes in quiet, solid work, and no body of nurses, such as the Society which has just been formally constituted, could have chosen a more judicious guide, or one who is more respected by all with whom she is professionally associated.

## THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

### PADDINGTON GREEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

The building of the out-patient extensions culminated on Thursday, November 16th, in an interesting ceremonial, when H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, declared the new premises open by the magical operation of pressing a key into an electrical lock on the table beside her! Instantly and simultaneously all the doors of the rooms opening into the Hall flew open.

The ceremony was preceded by a few words of prayer, spoken by the Right Rev. Bishop Boyd-Carpenter, Canon of Westminster.

Mr. Douglas Owen, chairman of the Hospital Committee, gave a brief history of the Hospital; and also a financial statement, showing a deficit of £2,279 17s. 6d. A collection of £169, presented in purses to the Princess by very small children, defrayed a fraction of this sum.

A brief description of the fine extension may be of interest. The lofty Hall, the walls of which are distempered cream, with a glazed dado of myrtle green—a fine effect—is both lit and ventilated by a sky-light running almost entirely across the Hall. The heating is provided by a combined system of ventilation for the summer, and heating for the winter; and the pipes being outside the Hall, the possibility of children injuring themselves against overheated pipes is obviated. The walls are to be decorated with tile pictures at a cost of £10 each, and the generosity of the public was appealed to, to supply this charming finish.

The new building includes: additional Medical and Surgical Consulting Rooms, an Anæsthetic and Operating Room, Undressing Rooms, Enlarged Dispensary, and Dispensary Waiting Hall, a Museum and Pathological Department, more Waiting Room Accommodation, a shelter for perambulators, sleeping accommodation for some of the Nursing Staff, who have hitherto been compelled to sleep out, and last, but by no means least, a much-needed *Recovery Room*. This necessary adjunct is ample in size, and provided with rows of comfortable looking bunks, where the children can lie after operations on adenoids and tonsils.

Sir Frederick Milner., Bart., proposed a vote of thanks to H.R.H. the Duchess of Argyll, and in the course of his remarks said that the saddest aspect about a children's Hospital was, that so many children, owing to the ignorance of their mothers, came to be cured of quite preventable diseases, and recommended the establishment of Health Societies in all towns and

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