

rank and file of the Nursing Profession, as Matrons and others invited as individuals cannot claim to represent the views of the organised Nurses' Societies. Moreover, the attention of the meeting was called to the fact that your Committee had taken the unprecedented step of discriminating between the various Societies composing the National Council, and without informing the signatories of their decision to exclude it, had invited some of them, whilst excluding others, to join the Memorial Committee. Amongst the societies so excluded is the most representative, the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, which is composed of nearly 3,000 members.

In the opinion of those present the party and personal feeling shown by your Committee upon such an occasion is deeply to be regretted."

Miss Forrest said, in loyalty to the Council, of which she was an officer, she had refused Mr. Wainwright's invitation, and she considered the National Council of Nurses too important a body to ignore. Composed as it was of thousands of nurses, they might have done much, if treated with courtesy, to interest the public in the Nightingale Memorial.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF NURSES.

A letter was read from Miss Goodrich, R.N., asking the opinion of the English nurses on a Nurses' International Memorial to Miss Nightingale. The President reported other foreign letters on the same matter, and approved Miss Dock's suggestion that the question should be considered at the Cologne Congress.

THE ISLA STEWART ORATION.

A letter was received from Miss Janet Stewart saying how touched she was with the proposal to have an Annual Oration in memory of her sister Isla, in which she wrote:—"It will keep her memory green and fragrant, and it is a sweet thought to have it."

The President proposed an arrangement for holding the Oration in October, which was approved, and also that the Council should make an effort to raise an endowment fund of £125, so that the honorarium should be secure. This was agreed to.

THE NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

It was suggested that the small Nurses' Committee which had, in an emergency, combined to protect the interests of nurses under the National Insurance Bill, should add to its number and form a Standing Committee to guard professional interests, as, should the Bill become law, nurses would be compulsory contributors, and as there would be a State endowment this insurance scheme could not be considered from a private point of view. The management of very large sums of money would be involved, and it was of the

utmost importance that if nurses could not obtain the best terms with existing insurance societies any Nurses' Approved Society founded in accordance with the provisions of the Bill to manage their money should be largely under their own control. It was agreed to ask the Presidents of affiliated societies and others to help form a Standing Committee. It was probable that not more than 5,000 persons would be required to form an Approved Society, and the Council had already that membership. The principle of self-government was approved.

THE TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE I.C.N.

Letters were considered from Fraulein Karll, President, International Council of Nurses; and from Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary. The question of having an exhibition section at the Cologne Congress was deferred, and a Sub-Committee consisting of Miss Forrest (Hon. Treasurer), Miss Mary Burr, and Miss Kent was appointed to obtain information and draft a report on all branches of Social Service Nursing in the United Kingdom to present to the Cologne Congress, I.C.N., 1912. Also to confer with Miss Keogh, President, Irish Nurses' Association, and Sister Albens Fogarty, and also others controlling religious Nursing Sisterhoods, so that a reliable report of the valuable work being done by such communities may be available for the International Congress.

THE HON. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Miss Forrest, the Hon. Treasurer, presented the Financial Report, showing a balance, including the Oration honorarium of £5, of £19 2s. 7d.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following hon. officers had been nominated and were supported by the Executive Committee:—

President.—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick re-elected for a second term of three years.

Hon. Secretary.—Miss B. Cutler.

Hon. Treasurer.—Miss C. Forrest.

Vice-President.—For a term of three years.—Miss Musson, Matron, General Hospital, Birmingham, to succeed Miss G. Rogers, retired in rotation.

Directors.—For a term of three years.—Miss M. Burr, to succeed Miss M. Breay, retired in rotation; Miss Wright, Matron, Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow, to succeed Miss J. Cowper, Edinburgh, retired in rotation.

All the recommendations were approved and the Hon. Officers elected.

The meeting then terminated.

Sister Cartwright entertained the delegates to tea and iced coffee with her usual hospitality.

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