

This was agreed to, and it was proposed that while, of course, conforming to the Model Rules for an Approved Society of Women Members only, that the Society should be governed by a General Council for the United Kingdom, which should meet annually; that there should be four National Councils, which should elect four Executive Boards of Management, each with its own office and paid clerical staff in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, according to its requirements.

By this system of decentralization local control would be maintained and personal interest encouraged. It was hoped that these suggestions would meet the approval of the self-governing societies of nurses and others who wished to join the Society.

THE BENEFITS.

Besides the general benefits proposed the Committee considered the question of additional benefits.

FINANCE.

It was agreed that all funds should be invested in funds either approved by Parliament for Savings Bank Funds, or in trustee or other securities which for the time being have been approved by the Insurance Commissioners.

In this connection there was an interesting discussion, the opinion being expressed that no doubt for interested purposes it was being suggested that women could not manage their own finances. The Chairman drew the attention of the meeting to the fact that the Nurses' Co-operation, which handled nearly £50,000 a year, had always been managed by a Lady Superintendent and a woman secretary; that at the Registered Nurses' Society, Sister Cartwright and her female clerks handled an income of upwards of £10,000 a year, kept the books, and could satisfy the chartered accountant to the uttermost farthing. The Chairman said that societies managed by women were much more economically managed than the majority managed by men, and she hoped the trained nurses of the United Kingdom—who could earn large sums—would for the future determine to control their own savings and the expenditure of them, and not hand them over blindly, as was usually done at present, for others to manage for them. Women were excellent economists, and should resent the imputation of those who were eager to handle their money, that they were too foolish to spend wisely what they had the capacity to earn.

It was arranged that a copy of the Draft Scheme, together with a covering letter, should be sent to Matrons and Superintendents of nurses, and others, asking them to be good

enough to bring the proposed scheme to the notice of the nursing staff. Miss Keogh undertook to place the matter before a meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association, and it was hoped that Scottish Nurses might also form a society which could co-operate with them.

The proceedings were conducted in a most business-like manner throughout, Miss Mollett, Miss Amy Hughes, Miss Waind, Miss Pearse, Miss Böge, Miss Barton, Miss Keogh, and others offering valuable suggestions, and bringing the scheme into practical form, which augured well for the future success of the Society if ultimately approved and established.

WHAT WE KNOW TO-DAY ABOUT SLEEPING SICKNESS.

The third lecture of the course on sleeping-sickness was delivered by Dr. Sandwith on Thursday, February 15th, at the City of London School, the subject being "What we know to-day about Sleeping-Sickness." The Professor said that the trypanosomes always inhabit the blood of vertebrate animals. Many pathogenic diseases are caused by their presence. They play a terrible part in both human and animal diseases. At least five cattle diseases are due to them. They are always lively, busy, and active, and are much more interesting than the ordinary parasite. They probably enter the blood by the lymph stream, and so through the lymphatic glands. Why they do not at once enter the cerebro-spinal fluid is not known. The fact that a man has trypanosomes in his blood does not make him a source of danger to others, unless the tsetse is present as an intermediate carrier. The spread of sleeping-sickness depends on the insect carrier, in the same way that malaria and yellow fever are conveyed by the mosquito. The disease is peculiar to Africa.

The study of trypanosomes fever is of the greatest importance. At present there are fifteen known species of the tsetse fly, and it is of the first importance that travellers should learn to distinguish between them, in order to be able to drive the palpalis away before it has time to bite.

Two of its distinguishing marks are—(1) when it is at rest the wings are folded scissor fashion, and (2) it has a very prominent proboscis.

It greatly prefers human blood, and may be found nearly a mile from the water in search of it.

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