

THE FEVER NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual meeting of the Fever Nurses' Association was held on Tuesday afternoon at the offices of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, E.C. The outgoing president (Dr. Pearson, of the Seacroft Hospital, Leeds), after saying that the year had been one of continued progress, resigned the chair to Dr. Foord Caiger, president-elect, who, he said, needed no introduction.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Dr. Caiger, who was warmly received, then delivered his presidential address. He said that the total membership of the association was now 1,725, not a bad record considering that the organisation had only been in existence just over three years. The support received from isolation hospitals of the large provincial towns had been a source of no small gratification. Dr. Caiger referred to the loss the association has sustained by the death of Dr. Carmelo D'Amico, of the King's Norton Isolation Hospital, recently incorporated in the Birmingham Municipality, one of the foremost in the endeavour to develop the efficiency of the isolation hospitals. In the successful accomplishment of this object in his own hospital he overtaxed the resources of a constitution always fragile, and died at his post, a victim, if ever there was one, to unselfish devotion to duty.

The president stated that an important step in the educational development of the association marked the annual meeting that day. The period of grace during which nurses have been enabled to obtain the association's certificate on the strength of a minimum service of two years in a fever hospital of sufficient size, backed by an attestation by the Matron of satisfactory work and conduct expired. Henceforth the certificate of the association and consequent admission to the register will only be obtainable after a candidate has completed her fever training under a prescribed curriculum, and passed an examination controlled by the association.

Although the examination has, so far, not been compulsory, seventy-two nurses chose voluntarily to present themselves at the October and April examinations, a fact which, as evidence of professional keenness, was eminently satisfactory and augurs well for the future.

The President referred to the recommendation in the Council's Report that the certificates of the Local Government Board of Scotland and of the Metropolitan Asylums Board should qualify for admission to the Register of the Association, and pointed out that the recommendation was an important one involving a question of policy. He looked forward to greater co-operation between general and special hospitals, and reciprocal training as the solution of the question of the nursing of infectious hospitals when State Registration of Nurses comes into force. (We hope to refer again to Dr. Caiger's wise words on this subject.)

The adoption of the Report was then moved by Dr. Goodall, seconded by Miss Drakard, and carried. The report in a reference to the Nurses Registration Bill, stated: "As was to be expected from the pressure of official legislation in the House of Commons, no definite headway has been made with this Bill. In the opinion of your Council the State Registration of Nurses is essentially a Governmental question and it is to be hoped that this will be eventually recognized."

It was reported that an invitation to send a fraternal delegate to the Congress of the International Council of Nurses at Cologne had been received and Miss E. M. Bann appointed.

The following officers have been appointed for the ensuing year: *President and Hon. Treasurer*, Dr. F. Foord Caiger; *Chairman of Council*, Dr. J. Biernacki; *Vice-Chairman*, Dr. H. E. Cuff; *Hon. Secretaries*, Dr. A. C. Ta'Bois and Miss L. H. Morgan. Dr. A. E. Pearson has been elected a Vice-President, and Miss B. Scott remains Hon. Registrar. The Financial Report showed a very satisfactory balance in hand.

The meeting on the motion of Dr. Goodall adopted the recommendation of the Council to accept the certificates above mentioned.

The following were appointed to the Council for the ensuing year in place of retiring members: Dr. J. Robertson, Dr. F. M. Turner, Dr. J. W. K. Mullen, Dr. Broad, Dr. P. N. Randall, Dr. Love, Miss L. Ellis, Miss Eardley, Miss M. M. Lloyd, Miss Pratchett, Mrs. Rowan, Miss Wilson, and Miss MacCormac. Hearty votes of thanks were passed to Dr. Biernacki for his services as Medical Hon. Secretary, to the Metropolitan Asylums Board for the use of the room, and to Dr. Caiger for presiding.

THE ASYLUM WORKERS' ASSOCIATION.

As we go to press the Asylum Workers' Association is holding its annual meeting at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W. The Association now numbers 5,275 members, and the aggregate increase in the strength of the Association has been 584. The report states that the retiring President, Sir William Collins drew up an Amending Bill to the Asylum Officers' Superannuation Act of 1909 to correct the anomalies and objectionable features which found their way into the Act during its passage through Parliament, in the hope that its moderate demands would commend it to the judgment of the House of Commons, even if the larger scheme, based upon the Report of the Select Committee on Viscount Wolmer's Bill was not accepted. The Bill was introduced by Sir Charles N. Nicholson, and influentially backed.

The resignation of the President, Sir William J. Collins, M.D., who has held this position since 1907, has caused widespread regret. Sir William was strongly of opinion that the President should be a Member of Parliament, and, owing to his good offices, Sir John Jardine, M.P., K.C.I.E., LL.D., has consented to nomination as his successor.

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