

professional training. Only registered medical practitioners and midwives certified under the Midwives Act are recognised, but, as there is no legal qualification for trained nurses, no standard of nursing could be incorporated in the Act.

"These are but a few instances of the disastrous conditions prevailing in regard to trained nurses owing to their lack of legal status."

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Upon the request of the President an additional delegate has been granted on the National Council of Women—and both delegates, Miss B. Cutler and Miss M. Breay, attended the Extraordinary Meeting held in London on the 20th inst., and voted in favour of the Resolution in connection with the Franchise Bill before Parliament, reaffirming the need for Women's Suffrage—proposed by Mrs. Creighton and seconded by Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer's Report showed a balance on the year's expenses of £8 6s. 6d.

REPORT OF THE HON. LIBRARIAN.

Mrs. Stabb reported handsome gifts and support to the International Library. Miss Cureton gives annually a bound volume of the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*, altogether 48 vols. Miss L. L. Dock gives a bound volume annually of the *American Journal of Nursing*, the set of twelve are now complete. The Associations of Nurses of Canada, Holland and Denmark donate bound volumes of their official organs, and the Associations of Nurses of New Zealand, Australasia and Victoria, India, Sweden, and the Bordeaux Nursing Schools send free copies of their journals. Money is required to bind the various magazines, and it was agreed that an attempt should be made to procure it, as it was recognised how increasingly valuable such a Library of Nursing Literature would become in time.

ELECTION OF HON. OFFICERS.

On the nomination of the Irish Nurses' Association Miss Carson Rae was elected Vice-President in the place of the late Mrs. Kildare Treacy.

Miss Bann to represent Fever Nurses, and Miss Annie Smith Infirmary Nurses, were elected Directors, and

Miss Cutler and Miss Forrest re-elected Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION. AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Several verbal amendments were agreed to in the Constitution, and the proposal of the President "That the National Council of Nurses shall hold an Annual Conference," was seconded by Miss G. A. Rogers and unanimously agreed to. It was agreed that the Triennial Conference of the International Council should be included, and meetings held in the two intervening years. The opinion was expressed that so much benefit had been derived from association and consultation between the professional nurses of the world

through the International Council that nothing but good could result from Conferences organized by the National Council. The arrangements were left to the Executive Committee.

THE BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY AND THE NURSING PROFESSION.

The Council felt strongly that action should be taken on the item in the Report which referred to the exclusion of trained women nurses from the various units sent to the Near East by the British Red Cross Society, for which a generous public had subscribed upwards of £30,000. The following resolution was passed unanimously, and it was directed that it should be sent to the Committee of the British Red Cross Society, the Secretary of State for War, and to the press:—

"This Council of trained nurses deprecates the policy of the British Red Cross Society in refusing to include thoroughly trained women nurses in the units sent to relieve the sick and wounded in the war in the Near East. This Council is of opinion that only nurses who are fully trained should be sent in this capacity, and that no base hospital can be considered efficiently equipped which has not such a staff."

The beautiful picture of Friederike Fliedner sent by Sister Julie Borges was on view, and several of those present secured a copy.

This terminated the business of the meeting.

BEATRICE CUTLER, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

On Wednesday, November 13th, at University Hall, Gordon Square, the Rev. H. U. Weitbrecht, D.D., gave the second lecture on "Islam, its duties, present condition, and the effects of missionary work."

The lecturer showed how Mohammed, who based much of his religion on Judaism, took the first three great duties of Islam from the Sermon on the Mount, *i.e.*, almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, and to these he added two others, that of confession and pilgrimage. These duties, the lecturer went on to say, are fairly well observed, and in devoutness and order of public worship and the care of the poor the Moslem is most exemplary, but, as we look on the practical effects of the faith with regard to the great relationships of human life, we cannot but feel that here are great blots on the Moslem system.

In connection with marriage, polygamy and all its attendant evils are sanctioned, slavery is the condition of service, and in relation to the State we have religious war, of which something has been heard lately in Turkey.

The lecturer appealed to those women who were thinking of missionary work abroad to

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