

### SCOTTISH MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting was held on Saturday, December 7th, in the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow.

In the absence of the President, Miss Melrose, Vice-President of the Association, occupied the chair.

Many letters and telegrams of apology for absence were received. Thirty-six members were present, several coming from a considerable distance. There was no special business before the meeting. Discussion and informal exchange of opinions on some points in nursing ethics took place, and it was arranged that two members should read short papers at the next meeting, which is to be held in Edinburgh on or about March 1st, 1913.

A delightful tea was provided by Miss Campbell, Matron of the Infirmary. Afterwards the guests were invited to visit the various departments.

The Plenum system of ventilation obtains in this Infirmary, and a very interesting demonstration and explanation, given by the engineer-in-charge, was greatly appreciated by the members of the Association.

### IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

At the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee on December 7th a resolution was proposed and passed that the fee for probationers should be raised from 1s. to 2s. 6d. per annum, the resolution not to come into force till March, 1913. A scheme was also proposed and accepted by which every eight nurses should have the right to nominate a representative from among their number to represent them at the meeting of the Executive.

The bridge drive organized by Miss Carson Rae for the I.N.A., and the dance organized by the Irish Nurses' Association, which took place on December 4th and 11th respectively, were both most enjoyable. The dance was well supported, there being nearly 400 present.

### THE PASSING OF A PIONEER.

The recent death of Miss Katherine M. Lumsden, so well-known for her devoted pioneer nursing work at Aberdeen, was sympathetically referred to at the quarterly meeting of the Aberdeen District Nursing Association, when a resolution, recording her passion for the mitigation of suffering in man and beast—together with her quick insight into the needs of the poor—and power of leading others to assist in her beneficent labours, was unanimously adopted. It was resolved that a copy of the resolution should, with an expression of deep sympathy, be sent to Miss Lumsden's brother and sister.

### OUTSIDE THE GATES.

#### WOMEN.

At a meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, held last week, Miss Lily Fanny Pain, of the Royal Free and National Dental Hospitals, having passed the required examinations of the Board of Examiners in Dental Surgery, was admitted the first lady licentiate of the Royal College.

Early in the New Year the Franchise Bill will be before the House of Commons. It will either give votes to all immature youths alone, or at the same time enfranchise a few responsible women. The women's suffrage societies are making demands and appeals to the men who govern this reactionary country, of late with a lack of all sense of either justice or humanity. In a memorial presented by representative women to members of the House of Commons it is stated:—

"The further extension of the franchise to men, without any recognition of the claims of women to citizenship, will add a new bitterness to the struggle which women have carried on for so many years on strictly constitutional lines. To readjust the Parliamentary Franchise on the basis of citizenship, and to pretend to give a vote to 'every citizen of full age and competent understanding' while still excluding every woman, will be a betrayal of every principle of representation, and, to quote the *Manchester Guardian*, will be 'an outrage and, we hope, an impossibility.'"

As reported by the *Standard*:—

"The news that a Bill amending the Danish Constitution and granting equal suffrage to men and women has been passed in the Danish Folkthing by a majority of 95 to 12 is an opportune encouragement to English Suffragists on the eve of the Committee Stage of the Government Franchise Bill."

The news has been received with the greatest satisfaction by suffragists in England, and warmest congratulations have been sent to Fru Munter, who communicated the telegram to Mrs. Fawcett.

After years of obstruction in the Commons, the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Act received the Royal Assent last Friday, and (praise be) comes into operation at once. Let us hope its provisions may be actively prosecuted. That it has been possible for this horrible traffic to flourish all over the world, with London as a centre depot, should make the most selfish woman pause and think of all the heartbreak and agony which her apathy has helped to make possible. It is good news that many of the degraded beings living on the profits of infamy are scuttling out of this country; it should be made impossible for them to pursue it elsewhere. The conviction of women forcibly expressed, that had they had political power this Act would have been in force years ago, has, we have no

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)