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NURSING IN 1912.

Once more, according to our custom, we review the chief events of nursing interest in 1912, and the present outlook.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The National Council of Trained Nurses appears to be the only association of nurses in this country which attempts to safeguard their professional and economic interests, and is alert in watching the signs of the times.

It has endeavoured to secure the direct representation of Trained Nurses on the Conjoint Advisory Committee under the National Insurance Act, but, unfortunately, its efforts to obtain justice in this connection have not met with success, and the trained nurses of this country, whose help is essential to the successful working of the Act, are the only class of professional or industrial workers who have been deliberately denied such representation. The application of the Council for increased representation on the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland has resulted in the appointment of a second delegate. Both representatives attended an extraordinary meeting of the Council in November, and voted for the Resolution re-affirming the opinion of the Council, twice previously expressed by Resolution, in support of Women's Suffrage, and a further Resolution urging the Government to amend the Franchise and Registration Bill now before Parliament, so as to remove the anomalies and disabilities existing in the present law with regard to Women's Local Government Franchise, and to safeguard the powers already possessed by women.

The International Library, in charge of Mrs. Stabb, is becoming a very useful and valuable reference library, containing complete volumes of the official organs of the National Associations of Nurses, and other books and documents of historic interest.

The Council also at its Annual Meeting sent a Resolution to the British Red Cross Society,

deprecating its policy in refusing to include thoroughly trained women nurses in the units sent to relieve the sick and wounded in the Near East, and expressing the 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 MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The membership of the Matrons' Council continues to steadily increase. It has continued its policy of holding meetings in provincial centres as well as in London, and early in November met, by invitation of Miss K. V. Macintyre, at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, where its members received the greatest hospitality and kindness. After the business meeting an open meeting was held, when Mrs. Bedford Fenwick gave an address on State Registration of Trained Nurses.

The Council is exceptionally fortunate in its President, Miss M. Heather-Bigg, whose quiet moral courage in approaching public questions secures for her the respect of every member of Council.

THE LEAGUES OF CERTIFICATED NURSES.

It is to the Leagues of Nurses that we must look for the development of that *esprit de corps* which is not only of the utmost professional importance, but also is the only means of building up a strong body which can safeguard the economic interests of trained nurses, which at the present time are attacked on all sides.

It is remarkable what unanimity of feeling exists not only in the individual Leagues, but also in their mutual relations, a circumstance which proves that the aspirations of thoroughly trained nurses are identical, and that where divergencies occur in the nursing profession they are not between the thoroughly trained, but are a result of inadequate standards, and the impossibility of appreciation, on the part of the half-trained, of the ideals and opinions of fully-trained nurses.

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