

Hon. Secretary.—Miss B. Cutler was re-elected.

Hon. Treasurer.—Miss C. Forrest was re-elected.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Chairman read the following letter of invitation:—

GENERAL HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM.

To the President of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland.

DEAR MADAM PRESIDENT,—On behalf of the General Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League, I write to invite the National Council to hold the Conference of 1914 in the City of Birmingham.

Birmingham is very central and is aptly termed the capital of the Midlands. Should this invitation be accepted I am sure that the nurses of Birmingham, as well as the members of our League, will do all they can to ensure the success of the Conference.

I am, yours truly,

E. M. MUSSON,

President, General Hospital,
Birmingham Nurses' League.

The letter was received with acclamation. Miss C. Forrest proposed and Miss Elma Smith seconded that the invitation be accepted.

The Chairman said that no more popular invitation could have been received. Precedent provided that the President of the affiliated society whose invitation was accepted acted as President of the Conference, and in Miss Musson the Council would have a lady in every way qualified for such responsibility, as she was keenly alive to the best interests of the nursing profession and its educational progress.

Miss Mollett, in supporting the motion, said that Miss Musson had always shown herself inspired with the highest ideals of nursing, and with her great organizing ability would, she felt sure, serve the Council admirably in arranging the sessions and social functions of the Conference.

The motion upon being put to the meeting was carried unanimously and with acclamation, and the Chairman said she felt sure the Council would wish to add, to the intimation of its great pleasure in accepting the invitation of the General Hospital Birmingham Nurses' League, the assurance to its President that it would do all in its power to help to make the Conference of 1914 a great success.

RESOLUTION.

The following Resolution was proposed by Miss H. L. Pearse and seconded by Miss C. Lee:—

That the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, which called public attention to the national importance of the subject in 1909,

begs respectfully to express to the Prime Minister its great gratification at the appointment, by the Government, of a Royal Commission to enquire into the prevalence of venereal diseases in the United Kingdom.

The Chairman said that in 1909 this Council, in preparing the agenda for the International Congress on Nursing, put national health in the forefront of the programme, and without doubt the most important session was that devoted to the discussion on "Morality in Relation to Health," when the fine papers presented by the Honourable Albinia Brodrick and Miss L. L. Dock were warmly acclaimed, and had since had far-reaching influence for good. Hundreds of pamphlets on analogous questions had been quietly distributed through the influence of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING all over the world, and the Council had some right to congratulate itself that it had the courage and foresight to deal with the disastrous results of the venereal group of diseases, before the medical profession in this country took public action.

The Resolution was passed unanimously, and it was agreed that copies should be sent to the Prime Minister and to the Chairman of the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases.

THE NURSES' INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL TO MISS FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

The next business was to consider a Letter from Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, which she thought might be printed as a small leaflet and distributed in large quantities.

LEAFLET LETTER.

For a perpetual and living memorial to the undying spirit and influence of Florence Nightingale it has been proposed in the circles of the International Council of Nurses that an educational foundation should arise in her name, which will make it possible for nurses in the future to prepare themselves most fitly to follow in her footsteps, and carry far her lamp of enlightenment by adding to their hospital training such higher, well rounded, and specialised study as shall be made necessary for the nurse by the ever-enlarging demands of medical and social science.

Miss Nightingale's most precious material asset for her incomparable work was (next to her character, which was inborn) her remarkable education, which was acquired. Without this liberal education it is doubtful if it had been possible for her to meet her extraordinary opportunities with success. She was by and through it, nurse, teacher, organiser, and foreteller on lines connected with her life work to a rare degree. Her influence has been felt around the world. No country, where modern nursing has been organised but has felt this influence in more or less direct degree. The whole human race does homage to her, and nurses will always refer back

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