

- 3587 Miss M. T. Murphy, cert. Taunton & Somerset Hosp.
 3588 Miss M. M. Chamney, cert. Roy. Victoria Hosp., Belfast (Sister in Charge of Auxiliary Military Hosp.).
 3589 Miss M. Neville (Lady Supt. Manchester Children's Hosp., Pendlebury).

The meeting then terminated.

MARGARET BREAY,
Hon. Secretary.

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR DISTRICT NURSING IN LONDON.

A meeting of the Central Council for District Nursing in London was held at the Conference Hall, at the Local Government Board Office, Whitehall, S.W., on Tuesday, July 20th. The Right Hon. Walter Long, M.P. (President of the Local Government Board), and the Right Hon. W. Hayes Fisher, M.P. (Parliamentary Secretary), were present, and addressed the Council.

Mr. Long, addressing the meeting, said that it gave him much pleasure to welcome the first business meeting of the Council which had been held since its inauguration two years ago. His immediate predecessors in office had taken great interest in the work done, and he should endeavour to follow in their steps, in order to further the work founded and organized.

One of the questions which it was proposed to discuss was the district nursing of measles—a disease which had proved much more serious than was realized some years ago—their prevalence, treatment, prevention and cure.

He rejoiced to see that the Council proposed to organize conferences, with a view to putting into operation a scheme for the nursing of cases of measles, and he respectfully urged that it should not only organize voluntary effort, but that it should co-ordinate all work with this object. He had been connected with Local Government, and with his own Department, long enough to know of one difficulty, the inevitable tendency to a feeling of jealousy between different bodies formed for the same purpose. But all had a common object, the improvement of the health of the people and the lessening of suffering. All, therefore, should be welcomed most heartily and all available help should be organized.

After referring to the preservation of child life as a most pressing problem at the present time, Mr. Long said that we did not want the population reduced by illness, and in this direction no field was likely to yield a better harvest than that of nursing. He remembered the nurses of fifty years ago, and had had experience of them of recent years; and the difference was extraordinary. With all deference to his distinguished friend, Sir William Collins, he thought that in nine cases of illness out of ten, recovery was due more to the nurse than the doctor—the constant,

watchful, trained and practised eye of the nurse, not only averted suffering, but serious danger. It was impossible to over-rate the importance of nursing in all its branches, and he was therefore particularly glad that it had fallen to his lot to welcome the Council there.

Mr. Hayes Fisher, M.P., then addressed the meeting, and said that his interest in nursing extended over twenty years, during which time he had watched over the fortunes of the Fulham and Hammersmith District Nursing Association. He referred to the grant of £1,000 made to the Council by the Trustees of the London Parochial Charities, with a further sum of £300 for the general purposes of the Council. The trustees spent their money well, but no £1,000 was better spent than that, and he hoped it would be a hardy annual, if it were not increased.

Sir William Collins then took the chair, and the business of the day was transacted.

The nomination by the National Union of Trained Nurses of Miss Joseph, in place of Miss Pye (resigned), was accepted.

The Chairman announced a donation of £100 from the Clothworkers' Company; and on the proposition of Sir Arthur Downes, seconded by Canon Craig, the Council recorded its thanks to the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers.

The report of the Executive Committee, of which Sir Arthur Downes is Chairman, was accepted.

The appointment of Sub-Committees on Constitution and Procedure, Organization, and Tuberculosis, was notified; and the report on District Nursing in relation to Measles, German Measles and Whooping Cough, and the need of nursing for cases of those diseases in poor homes was received. A resolution was also passed, expressing the grateful thanks of the Council to the Trustees of the London Parochial Charities for their grants above noted.

The London, County and Westminster Bank, 1, St. James' Square, S.W., was appointed Treasurer for the Central Council; and the appointment of a finance committee of five persons sanctioned, exclusive of the Hon. Officers. Sir Arthur Downes submitted the names of Mr. F. R. Anderton, Mr. Michael A. Green, and Mr. Waldron (Chairman of the Metropolitan Asylums Board); and as no other names were suggested, it was left to members of the Finance Committee to co-opt two other persons.

Amongst the new terms of reference to the Executive Committee were the following:—

“To inquire as to adequacy and efficiency of the provision of District Nursing within the County of London, and to report thereon to the Council, making such recommendations as they may deem desirable, with a view to systematising and improving the arrangements for District Nursing in London, and to carry out any directions given by the Council.”

“To consider and report as to the desirability of extending the work of the Central Council beyond the area of the County of London.”

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