

powers of self-government. It provided for a three years' term of grace, during which time nurses could register without examination, and it defined a trained nurse as a person who had had three years' training in a hospital, or hospitals, after such examination as the Council may prescribe, three cardinal principles without which registration might become a dead letter.

Mrs. Fenwick invited the members to study the two Bills carefully and realise their responsibility to future generations of nurses, and to work for just and progressive legislation in opposition to the perpetuation of the College system, as provided in its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The profession must not be penned in an economic compound by powerful employers and officials—a compound from which there was no means of egress without loss of self-respect and liberty of conscience.

RESOLUTION.

Miss Elma Smith then took the chair while Mrs. Bedford Fenwick moved the following resolution, which was down in her name on the Agenda; it was seconded by Miss Breay and passed unanimously:—

That, in order to bring the representation of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland into conformity with that of the Scottish and Irish Matrons' Associations on the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, it is desirable that the representation sanctioned by the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.W. be increased to three delegates.

Miss Ballantyne was unanimously elected as one of the delegates of the Matrons' Council on the National Council of Trained Nurses.

A cordial vote of thanks to Miss Ballantyne for her reception of the Council, and to the Board of Guardians for allowing the meeting to take place in their beautiful Board Room was moved from the Chair, and this was carried by acclamation.

Miss Ballantyne expressed her satisfaction at the Matrons' Council meeting at the hospital, and said that the Guardians lent the room with the greatest pleasure.

The meeting then terminated, and broke up into little groups, and most delicious un-warlike tea was served by some of the Sisters, who pressed their dainties upon the guests with bounteous hospitality.

ANNIE E. HULME, *Hon. Sec.*

THE Y.M.C.A. HUT.

An adjournment was then made to the Y.M.C.A. Recreation Hut, the gift of Baron Profumo and Miss A. E. Hulme, Hon. Secretary of the Council, who is also resident there, and gives daily personal service.

A charming concert had been arranged, at which Mr. Reginald Clarke acted as accompanist, and also played a "Caprice" of his own. Miss Harvey sang delightfully "Gleaming Shells" and "Blackbirds, wake up," Miss Christison gave

two fine violin solos, and Miss Helen Hulme sang "Friend of Mine" with her well-known charm and high technical skill. A most clever performance, which secured an encore, was that of Private Harrold, of the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, at present in the A. 2 Ward at Fulham Military Hospital, who accompanied the "March in Scipio" on the bones with excellent effect, and in accurate time. This was followed by the "Blue Bells of Scotland," when he drew melody from a handful of spoons and forks annexed from the bar near by.

THE ASSOCIATION OF POOR LAW UNIONS AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association meets in London this week on the 23rd and 24th, when it will have before it a comprehensive report from its Executive Council—in which its negotiations with the College of Nursing are fully discussed. The question of who is going to be "top dog" on the governing body of the Nursing Profession should a State Registration Bill be passed is causing veritable anguish of soul to the officials of this and other Poor Law organisations; and Mr. Beavan's surmise, that once Guardians and Hospital Managers realise that the nurses have the audacity to claim self-government—thus following the excellent example of the male sex—"there will be a great furore," will no doubt be evident at the meeting.

In their report, the Council describe in detail the various methods undertaken by them in order to ensure proper recognition of the requirements of Poor Law Hospitals in case the College should become a statutory foundation in possession of such powers as would ensue on the establishment of wide powers under an Act of Parliament. They "arranged with the President as to the action to be taken if the College of Nursing Bill should be introduced into Parliament, and decided that the progress of the measure should be consistently watched, though they were of opinion that the chance of progress of any such measure in Parliament was very unfavourable at the present moment," and they also "instructed their Parliamentary Committee to take all necessary steps to safeguard the interests not only of Poor Law institutions which are recognised as Training Schools, but also the interests of those Poor Law institutions in which nurses are satisfactorily trained, but which, on technical grounds, do not come within the description of 'Training Schools'."

The *Poor Law Officers' Journal* opines:— "The Council of the Unions' Association have not moved one inch too far in their instruction to the Parliamentary Committee when the extent and authority are recognised for statutory powers such as are sought by the College of Nursing under its Bill. At the recent interview on the part of

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