

When they wrote asking the College of Nursing Ltd., for one-fifth representation on the Council they had to wait seven months for a reply. During that time the laws which should govern them were drawn up.

To many of these questions no sufficient reply was given, but it is understood that replies will be given in the nursing press from headquarters.

Dr. Peacock offered a cordial vote of thanks to Miss Cox-Davies and Miss Rundle for coming over at such an inclement time of year, and said they would return with clearer ideas of the desires of the Irish Nurses. He was sure they would do their utmost to bring the Council of the College into line with them.

Miss Huxley seconded the vote of thanks which was carried with acclamation.

On the motion of Miss Reed, a hearty vote of thanks was seconded to Dr. O'Carroll for acting as chairman, and also to the Fellows of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons for their help and sympathy.

The President acknowledged the vote of thanks on his own behalf and on behalf of the College of Physicians and read a letter from Major de Courcy Wheeler, regretting his inability to attend.

He stated that the question whether Irish Nurses should join the British College was too big to be decided in a week or month, and would require fully three months for consideration. He considered that the College stood to gain as much by the inclusion of the Irish Nurses as did the Irish Nurses, and they should meet their wishes in a matter of changing the name of the College, and that Irish Nurses should have not less than one-sixth representation on the Council.

The meeting then terminated.

Throughout the proceedings the greatest interest was shown. Irish Nurses have taken a leading part in the endeavour to obtain State Registration, and the audience was, in consequence, a keen and well-informed one.

A large meeting of nurses was also held in the evening, when, apparently, the delegates of the College of Nursing met a different type of audience to that which they usually address. It is quite certain that Irish nurses mean to satisfy themselves as to the constitution of the College, and the position of nurses under its organization, before they associate themselves with this new movement.

We welcome this intelligent attitude on the part of Irish nurses.

### THE FUTURE OF CIVILISATION.

United in the pursuit of this lofty aim the Allies are determined singly and severally to act with all their power and to make all sacrifices to carry to a victorious end a conflict upon which, they are convinced, depend not only their own welfare and prosperity, but the future of civilisation itself.—*Allies' Note to President of the United States.*

## THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.



The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland was held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., on Friday, January 26th, at 4 p.m. The President, Miss M. Heather-Bigg, wrote expressing her great disappointment at being prevented by indisposition from attending. In her absence Mrs. Bedford Fenwick presided.

Forty members were present, and a very large number wrote much regretting their inability to attend in these busy times.

### THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual Report presented by the Hon. Secretary was read and adopted.

Arising out of the Report the Chairman gave a brief survey of the present position of the Nurses' Registration Question, especially in relation to the Bill promoted by the Central Committee for State Registration of Nurses, since she made a report to the Council in November.

The issue between the Central Committee and the College of Nursing, Ltd., was whether or no the establishment of a monopoly in the government of the nursing profession was to be permitted, and the Rules and Regulations to be made by a nominated Council, or whether an independent governing body, analogous to the General Medical Council, the Central Midwives' Board, and the Teachers' Registration Council, was to be set up. The position was so serious for the practising nurses that if, through misapprehension, or hesitation, or apathy, or stupidity, the nursing profession waived the right conceded to medical practitioners, midwives, and teachers, they would not only forge an educational but an economic monopoly in their work, practically controlled by the laity.

Mrs. Fenwick briefly described the meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association held on the 18th ult., when those present agreed to share the Nurses' Royal Charter granted to them in 1892 with the College of Nursing, and through a Supplemental Charter to admit the

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