

said that the nursing profession owed Miss Heather Bigg a very special vote of thanks for standing by the nurses in their struggle with autocracy. She was the only Matron of a large London hospital who had the courage to lead the nurses along the straight path of professional evolution by "self-determination." M. B.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Essex County Hospital, Colchester.—Miss Mary E. Jones has been appointed Matron. She was trained at Guy's Hospital, and at the Brompton Hospital, and is a certified midwife, and certificated masseuse.

St. Mary, Islington Infirmary, Highgate.—Miss Frances C. Wallen has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Metropolitan Hospital, N.E., and has held the position of Assistant Matron at the above infirmary for a number of years. She has also done war work and holds the Royal Red Cross (Second Class).

HOME SISTER AND ASSISTANT MATRON.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.—Miss Grace Farquhar has been appointed Home Sister and Assistant Matron. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and has been Sister at Bromley Hospital, Night Sister and Ward Sister at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, and Sister at Birmingham General Hospital.

SISTER.

General Hospital, Birmingham.—Miss Winifred Petford has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Warneford General Hospital, Leamington, and has been on the private staff and Sister at that hospital.

Beckett Hospital, Barnsley.—Miss N. Williams has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester.

WOMEN INSPECTORS.

Miss Josephine Clarke, Miss Bessie Crofts, Miss Mabel Kate Herbert, Miss Alice Clara Marshall and Miss Margaret Christine Munro, School Nurses in the Public Health Department of the London County Council, have been transferred (Miss Marshall as from January 1st, 1918), to fill vacant positions as women inspectors under the Children Act, 1908, in the Public Health Department, subject to the conditions as to holidays, hours of duty, sick pay, &c., attached to the position of woman inspector under the Children Act, 1908.

BOTH SIDES HEARD AT BATH.

We have received an interesting report of a Meeting held at Bath on Saturday last, at which, for once, both sides of the Fund for Nurses controversy were heard, thanks to Dr. Begg, who was in the Chair. Miss Cox-Davies spoke for the College and Miss Cancellor presented the case for the Nurses. We hope to find space for this report next week.

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR DISTRICT NURSING.

The Right Hon. W. Hayes Fisher, M.P., President of the Local Government Board, welcomed the members of the Central Council for District Nursing in London who attended the Annual Meeting held at the Offices of the Board in Whitehall on February 26th, and in the course of his address emphasised the importance of the care of cases of ophthalmia neonatorum which he said was a preventable disease and should be prevented. If so, at least 3,000 children every year would be saved from going blind. He commended the requirement of the Council in insisting that all the trained nurses employed under its authority to care for this disease should have received special training in this branch, as skilled experts agreed that if this disease were detected immediately it could be cured.

Concluding, Mr. Hayes Fisher expressed the hope that by the deliberations, advice, and counsel of the Central Council for District Nursing in London disease would be diminished, the span of human life greatly prolonged, and suffering lessened.

Sir William Collins, M.P., was re-elected Chairman of the Council, and took the Chair vacated by the President of the L.G.B. Sir Thomas Barlow was then elected Vice-Chairman, and Miss Amy Hughes and Miss Zöe Puxley Hon. Secretaries of the Council.

The business was conducted by Sir Arthur Downes, Chairman of the Executive Committee, who presented its report, which was adopted.

Amongst the recommendations approved was one that it should be an instruction to the Executive Committee to enquire into areas of London not adequately provided with a district nursing service, and to take such steps as may be practicable to remedy such deficiency. The Committee was also instructed to enquire what provision is at present available for the services of visiting nurses for persons of limited income.

It was agreed that a Register should be kept by the Central Council in which should be recorded the name, address, and training of nurses willing to serve for part of the year, and that no nurse be added to the register who had had less than three years' approved training and that experience in district nursing be also taken into account.

A member here enquired whether this requirement foreshadowed the adoption of "what is known as the Stanley scheme," and was informed by Sir Arthur Downes that it was the definition of a fully trained district nurse adopted by the Hospital Sunday Fund, nothing else.

It was further agreed that in view of the importance of the provision of maternity nursing in London that the Council should convene a Conference on the subject.

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