

IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

A public meeting will be held in the Examination Hall of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, on Monday, March 31st, 1919, at 5 p.m., the President of the Royal College of Surgeons in the chair. Business: To consider the present position of Irish nurses.

All nurses and other persons interested in the management of hospitals are invited to attend.

ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT.

SOCIAL MEETING OF THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The members of the Irish Nurses' Association held their annual re-union at the Club Rooms, 34, St. Stephen's Green, on St. Patrick's evening.

The election for officers for the coming year took place and the following is the result of the ballot:—

President: Miss Reeves, R.R.C., Lady Supt., Dr. Steevens' Hospital.

Vice-President: Miss Hezlett, R.R.C., Lady Supt., the Richmond Hospital.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Carson Rae, 34, St. Stephen's Green.

Executive: Mrs. Manning, Misses Huxley, Thornton, O'Flynn, Kearns, Roberts, Bradburn, Brodrick, A., MacDonnell (R.R.C.), Cunningham, Keating, Sutton, Blackmore, Chisholm, Ramsden, McArdle, French, Tomb, Carre, Dickie.

After tea there was a fancy dress dance, and prizes were given for the three most original costumes. The work of judging, which was done by a member from each hospital, was a difficult one for the judges, the attendance being large and the costumes most varied and picturesque. However, the judges decided in favour of:

1st prize (£1), Miss Fox, Sir P. Dunn's Hospital, as "Paddy."

2nd prize (10s.), Miss Sproule, Richmond Hospital, as "Stop Press."

3rd prize (10s.), Miss Perkins, Richmond Hospital, as "Orange Seller."

Miss Reeves, the new President, presented the prizes.

At the conclusion, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Miss Carson Rae, the outgoing President, for the efficient manner in which she had acted during her term of office, and also for her kindness in organising such a pleasant and enjoyable evening.

At a meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association held on March 6th, it was decided to ask the Boards of Governors of some hospitals to consider the following scheme:—(1) No entrance fee for Probationers; (2) Probationers to receive £10 for the first year, £12 for the second, and £14 for the third; (3) a 56 hours' week; (4) a three years' training. (5) a certificate to be given to the Nurse at the end of the third year; (6) Staff Nurses to be paid a minimum salary of £35 per annum; (7) Sisters to be paid a minimum salary of £45 per annum.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

HEALTH IN THE HOUSE.

The Ministry of Health Bill, being discussed by Standing Committee A in the House of Commons, and the Housing Bill, introduced last week by Dr. Addison, President of the Local Government Board, are both measures of extreme interest to nurses, as the provisions in the former cannot be practically applied without their whole-hearted help, and when the latter Bill has provided healthy dwellings for the people many nurses will rejoice at improved conditions. No one knows more about slum property in towns, or insanitary cottages in the country than the district nurse.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH BILL.

THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

The three amendments to this Bill in which nurses took a lively interest were (1) The wish of the Central Midwives Board to remain under the supervision of the Privy Council, as the General Medical Council does, and not to be transferred to the Ministry of Health. As we reported last week, Major Astor, Parliamentary Secretary to the L.G.B., stated that they did not intend to touch the judicial functions of the Board, so that the midwives, when questions of discipline were raised, would still have the appeal to the High Courts, and with this assurance Major Hill, who raised the question, appeared to be content, and withdrew his amendment.

THE CARE OF CHILDREN FROM 5 TO 16.

The Bill provides that school children from the age of 5 to 16 shall still be under the care of the Board of Education. In Committee Sir Philip Magnus moved that "the medical inspection and treatment of children and young persons" should be transferred to the Ministry of Health, as the care and health of expectant mothers and children who have not attained the age of five years were to be transferred, so that there would be continuity of medical control by one department. The Committee was strongly in favour of this amendment, and upon Major Astor promising, after consultation with the President of the Board of Education, to recommend that the transfer should be carried out on the report stage, the amendment was withdrawn.

A WOMEN'S CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL.

A question which has divided women actively engaged in social reform has been how could women be adequately represented on the Consultative Councils to be set up under the Act. The National Council of Women taking the view that as women were eligible for all the Councils, a Women's General Consultative Council entirely composed of women was a retrograde recommendation. Whilst Lady Rhondda's Watching Council, which represents 500,000 women, urged that unless a special Women's Council was set

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