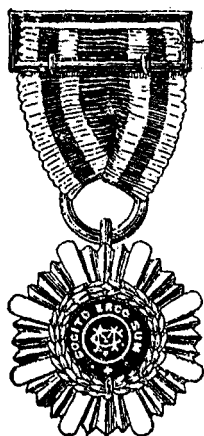


**THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT
BRITAIN AND IRELAND.**

The Quarterly Meeting of the Matrons' Council was held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1, on Friday, October 31st. The President, Miss M. Heather Bigg, R.R.C., was in the Chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

The correspondence received included a letter from Lord Amptill, acknowledging a letter of appreciation of his work for the cause of Nurses' Registration sent to him on behalf of the Matrons' Council; also letters from Miss Hester Maclean, Matron-in-Chief of the New Zealand Army Nursing Service, and Assistant Inspector of Hospitals, New Zealand, stating that she hopes, ere long, to hear of the success of the Nurses' Registration Bill in the House of Commons, from Miss Vida Maclean, Military Hospital, Trentham, notifying that she had been transferred to New Zealand, and conveying to the members of the Matrons' Council her sincere thanks for the courtesy they extended to her while in England, and regretting that, owing to the exigencies of service, she was unable to take a more active interest in its work. From Miss M. Thurston, Matron-in-Chief of the Nurses with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, who stated that she would like to see the Nurses' Registration Bill through, in this country, before she returned to New Zealand.

Applications for membership were considered and dealt with.

The appointment of Miss Annie E. Hulme as second delegate of the Matrons' Council on the Executive Committee of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses was confirmed.

At the request of the Chairman, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Nurse Secretary of the Central Committee, made a Report on a Conference held at the Ministry of Health, by request of the Minister, with the Executive Committee of the Central Committee, to discuss the chief points of his Nurses' Registration Bill. Provisional action was taken thereon.

Miss T. Bickerton, R.R.C., Matron of the Prince of Wales Hospital, Tottenham, then spoke on the Economic Position of Trained Nurses, and the Report of the National Council of Women on this subject, which has been published in this Journal. The speaker said that, as a result, most probably of the efforts of nursing organisations which are endeavouring to improve the conditions of work and the position of nurses generally, a very considerable interest had been aroused in circles outside the nursing world.

Those present then adjourned for tea.

ANNIE E. HULME,
Hon. Secretary.

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED
(REGISTERED) NURSES OF GREAT
BRITAIN AND IRELAND.**

The Annual Meeting of the above Council was held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., on Thursday, November 6th. The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair. After the Minutes were read and confirmed the President gave a short report of the progress of the State Registration Movement during the past year, which had culminated at last after thirty-two years' struggle, in the pledge of the Government to bring in a Bill for the Registration of Trained Nurses, the text of which was now under consideration—a most satisfactory, if long delayed, result of the earnest and self-sacrificing work of the Nurses' organisations in the promotion of this reform.

A letter was read and sympathetically considered from Miss Alice Reeves, President of the Irish Nurses' Association, on the proposed exclusion of Ireland from the Nurses' Registration Bill, expressing the opinion that it would be a very serious thing for Irish Nurses both in England and Ireland if excluded from the Bill. Miss Reeves invited the support of the Council for the inclusion of Irish Nurses, as the Irish Nurses' Association had worked all through with the Central Committee for State Registration.

The Council was in full sympathy with the inclusion of Ireland if politically possible.

THE FINANCIAL REPORT.

The Financial Report showed a balance of £21 1s. 10d., the expenditure for the year having only amounted to £7 3s. 1d., the result of voluntary management.

HONORARY OFFICERS.

Miss Christina Forrest was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, and Miss B. Cutler, Hon. Secretary, and the Presidents of the Matrons' Council, the Irish Nurses' Association, and the National Union of Trained Nurses, were re-elected to *ex officio* seats on the Council.

THE INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK.

A letter was read from Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, sending a cordial invitation to the Executive Officers of the International Council, from the American Nurses' Association, to meet at the Biennial Convention of the A.N.A., April 5th-10th, 1920, at Atlanta, Georgia, to "Confer upon the International Outlook."

The meeting decided to do all in its power to send a representative, and as the President was unable to attend, it was agreed that Miss Margaret Breay, the Hon. Treasurer of the International Council of Nurses, should represent the National Council's views at Atlanta, as it was considered of the utmost importance that a representative of Organised Nursing opinion from the United

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