

securing the certificates for the nurses, and to solicit public support to a fund. A Committee was appointed to deal with the matter.

Mr. Mimmack's argument that a medical officer must sign documents of which he does not approve—presumably to relieve the Guardians of an awkward situation they themselves have occasioned—is entirely wrong. The nurses are in fault or they are not, and it is the duty of the Board of Guardians to prove them either innocent or guilty and give an honest judgment. The Board appears to have assumed a very invertebrate attitude, and to have expected the medical officer to do likewise.

The following letter from the Ministry of Health's General Inspector (Mr. J. S. Oxley) addressed to the Clerk, was recently placed before the Steyning Guardians:—

I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday with reference to the granting of certificates to nurses, and have consulted the Department with reference thereto. I am informed that the view of the Minister in such a case is that the matter is one for the decision of the Guardians, and that he could not properly intervene, and such an answer would be sent in the event of the Guardians officially submitting the facts. I do not see what more the Guardians can do; as the Examiner will not sign the certificate, they are, as you say, helpless in the matter.

Last week we had the pleasure of recording the recognition given to Dr. Anna Hamilton, of Bordeaux, of her splendid pioneer work for the cause of nursing in France. This week there has reached us news of the honour done to Miss M. Agnes Snively, *doyenne* of trained nursing in Canada, by her professional colleagues.

At the Fourteenth Annual Convention of the Canadian Association of Nurse Education and the Convention of the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses, Miss Snively (together with Miss Margaret Stanley, till recently Superintendent of the Victoria Hospital, London, Ontario, and Miss Nora Livingstone, for many years Superintendent of Nurses at the Montreal General Hospital), had the honour of receiving life membership of both bodies, and Miss Snively, who had initiated both Associations, was presented with an autograph album containing the names of nine thousand nurses actively engaged in their fields of labour from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Miss Snively, the only one of the three ladies who was present to receive this recognition personally, expressed her deep apprecia-

tion of the honour conferred on her, and mentioned as one of the most important points for nurses to keep in view, the development of the heart and mind, and the great attribute of compassion. In addition to receiving life membership of both Associations, Miss Snively was also made Hon. President of the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses. The Conventions of the two Associations were held at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, and Miss Snively was the honoured guest of both from May 30th to June 4th.

As Archivist of the nurses' organisations in Canada, Miss Snively presented a Report on the work of both these Associations for the first three years of their existence. This included an account of the ceremony of the affiliation of the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses with the International Council of Nurses in London in July, 1909, at that unforgettable meeting at Church House, and also the visit of Miss Snively (as President of the Association) and the other Canadian delegates, to the Mausoleum at Frogmore, by special permission of the late King Edward VII, to place a wreath on the tomb of Queen Victoria.

Miss Snively's report took an hour and a half to present, and we are glad to learn will be printed later, and will contain a picture of the group of Canadian Delegates at Windsor Station in 1909, and of the wreath above mentioned.

When the above honours were conferred on Miss Snively she wore the beautiful Badge of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, which she greatly values, and which was presented to her as one of its Honorary Members. She is also a Life Member of the American Association of Nursing Education.

In a letter received Miss Snively writes:—“Naturally I am very proud of all this distinction, and only wish it might have been possible for you to have been present (so do we—Ed.) to see with your own eyes what a very promising young person this child of mine, now thirteen years of age, has grown to be. “When one considers distances in Canada and that there were about 200 delegates present, from Halifax to Vancouver, one can be forgiven for being thrilled on such an occasion.”

The Conventions were most hospitably entertained in Quebec, and a Garden Party at Spencer Wood, given by the Governor-General and Lady Fitzpatrick, was included in the programme.

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