

things were served at intervals throughout the evening.

At the conclusion the Matron thanked Sir John and Lady Reid for their hospitality, and emphasised the delight of Nurses, who work so hard, at such an opportunity of "playing hard" in such unique surroundings, and the proceedings closed with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

### THE INTERNATIONAL MEETING AT COPENHAGEN.

We are reminded that in May last, at a Conference of the South African Trained Nurses' Association, held in Pretoria, Miss J. C. Child was asked to attend the next International Council Meeting at Copenhagen as a Delegate for the S.A.T.N.A. from London. This, Miss Child consented to do. Now that the date is fixed by the Danish Council of Nurses for May 22nd to 24th next, Miss Child is awaiting instructions from South Africa. At an early date we hope to have further details of the arrangements to place before our readers.

### A NURSING STAR.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MISS ANNA C. MAXWELL, R.N.

In honour of Miss Anna C. Maxwell, R.N., M.A., and in appreciation of her life's work for Nursing and humanity, a Banquet is being held in New York City—as we go to press—at which 500 friends are to be present, including eminent public people, and her medical and nursing colleagues. It is sure to be a perfectly splendid occasion, for Anna C. Maxwell is a perfectly splendid woman, and her forty-five years' professional life reflects the greatest credit upon the profession of nursing throughout the world.

Trained at the Boston City Hospital, Mass., she has held the important office of Superintendent of the Nurse Training School attached to the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, for thirty years, one of the best equipped hospitals in the world. During all those years Miss Maxwell has been associated with other great leaders of nursing organization in the United States, and with them has taken part in every movement for uplifting the profession of which she is so brilliant a star.

Now that she has retired from active practice, it is fitting that the occasion of her farewell should be brilliantly commemorated.

It is also fitting that the occasion should not pass without her colleagues on this side addressing to her a few words of admiration and gratitude, which we hope by now have flashed along the Atlantic Cable.

The National Council of Great Britain and Ireland sent the following cable to Miss Nutting to be read at the Banquet:—

"National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland offers Miss Maxwell warm appreciation of splendid life's work for Nursing and Humanity."

FENWICK, President.

### MISLEADING THE NURSING PROFESSION.

A correspondent, in a recent issue, referred to the reasons given by Mr. Comyns Berkeley, an Hon. Treasurer of the College of Nursing, Ltd., to its Sheffield Centre, which nurses inform him prevent them from joining the College.

The members of one group, he says, tell him, when he asks them if they are members of the College, "Not likely, it's a regular swindle."

This opinion he attributes to a misinterpretation of the pledge given by the College to nurses, whom, in a leaflet, it urged to join its ranks; the first reason which it placed before them being:—

#### THE PLEDGE.

"Because the Council of the College of Nursing has drafted a Nurses' Registration Bill, which provides that the Register already formed by the College of Nursing shall be the first Register under the Act. If, therefore, you are on the College Register, you will automatically and without further fee be placed upon the State Register when the Nurses' Registration Bill is passed."

Mr. Berkeley thinks that to interpret this Clause to mean the College "would guarantee that if any nurse was elected a member thereof she would most certainly and without fail be placed on the State Register, no matter what Bill received the Royal Assent," is a "monstrous perversion of the true facts."

Mr. Berkeley may remember that, at a meeting convened by the College of Nursing, Ltd., held at No. 1, Wimpole Street, on January 23rd, 1919, Miss M. Breay drew attention to this promise, and asked what authority the Council of the College had to pledge Parliament that it would automatically place all nurses who were on the College Register on the State Register. After other questions, in reply to which the Chairman admitted that the Central Committee's Bill was known as "the Nurses' Registration Bill," he further stated that the College, having made the promise, would pay the fee.

Further, the Council of the College has since announced that it will refund the Registration Fee of any Nurse who has been accepted for Registration on the State Register, thus admitting its obligation. Because if no such obligation exists, then it has no right to pay the State Registration fee of a single member; and, if the obligation does exist, then every member who joined the College up to March 18th, 1920, has the right, on the pledged word of its Council, to be reimbursed for the fee she has paid to a General Nursing Council.

In regard to Mr. Berkeley's claim as to what the College has done in regard to the passing of an Act for the State Registration of Nurses, we can only hope that before he again addresses a College Centre, or any other meeting, on the subject of State Registration, he will revise his notes in accordance with facts. We have nothing to say on the subject of the "regular swindle," but to deviate from the truth is not very honest,

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