

Navy at War), and one by Mr. Allen S. Walker, on October 17th (The Royal City of Westminster and its Abbey).

THE TREASURER OF THE BENEVOLENT FUND, Mrs. Matthews, presented a report showing a balance on the current account (exclusive of money on deposit) of £15 4s. 9d. £31 had been disbursed during the year.

All these reports were unanimously adopted.

#### THE ISLA STEWART MEMORIAL FUND.

THE TREASURER, Mrs. Shuter, presented the Report of the Isla Stewart Memorial Fund, and stated that its objects were to benefit educationally, socially, or by gifts to members of the League, or the League as a whole. The income from investments was a little over £27, and the Committee felt that a fitting opportunity had arisen to make a grant of £25 for the expenses of a Delegate to the meeting of the International Council of Nurses at Copenhagen. Miss H. L. Pearse had been invited, and accepted, to attend as a Delegate, and the above grant was made to her.

The Financial Report showed that the Fund had £675 invested, and a balance at the bank of £16 13s. 11d. after the grant of £25 had been made.

#### REPORT OF THE SCRUTINEERS.

The Scrutineers reported that Miss James (Sister Kenton), Miss Le Geyt (Member Central Midwives' Board), Miss Nuttall (Sister Tutor, Charing Cross Hospital), and Miss Townsend (Sister Lawrence) had been elected to serve on the Executive Committee in place of the retiring members, Mrs. Bracewell, Miss MacCormac, Miss M. E. Moore, and Miss Vergette.

Mrs. Turnbull was, by acclamation, elected a Vice-President, on the nomination of the Executive Committee, in place of Miss M. Breay who retired at the end of her term of office.

Miss Cutler then gave an account of the Meeting of the International Council of Nurses at Copenhagen, which was much appreciated. She very kindly did so in place of Miss Pearse, who, at the last moment, was prevented by indisposition from attending, and said that, as the Hon. Secretary of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, she had had the honour to be nominated as one of the four delegates from this country.

The meeting then resolved itself into a Social Gathering and adjourned to the Great Hall, where the opportunity for social intercourse at little tables, while tea, cakes, Scotch bun (sent by Miss Janet Stewart), and raspberries and cream (supplied by many willing hands) was greatly enjoyed. Music was provided by members of the Nursing Staff.

“Why should permanent teeth desert us after a few years. Nature intended them to be as permanent as our legs, and yet the nation remains for the most part unmoved while millions of its teeth rot.”—Miss Cooper Hodgeson, Superintendent of Health Visitors, Durham, at the Sanitary Congress.

## REGISTRATION OF NURSES IN ONTARIO.

At last an Act for the Registration of Nurses has been passed in Ontario, Canada—after years of waiting and strenuous work upon the part of pioneer nurses.

Hearty congratulations to dear Miss Agnes Snively—doyenne and leader of Nursing in Canada—and to Miss Jean Gunn; past and present Lady Superintendents of the General Hospital, Toronto; to the active members of the Ontario Nurses' Organisations; the National Association of Canadian Nurses, and to all the individual registrationists who have so loyally promoted and worked for this great reform. They have won legal status and the right to the protected title of Registered Nurses, and to reciprocity of registration with the Mother Country.

But the Act as drafted may produce poor results, and to quote *The Canadian Nurse*, our colleagues in Canada are fully alive to the pitfalls.

After many, many months and years of waiting, after days of attending a Royal Commission, when the summing up of the learned judge was to publicly state that the graduate nurses of Ontario had worked hard and worked alone, as far as help was concerned, to get themselves recognised and their registration legally assured, comes the news of the passing of the Act respecting the Registration of Nurses in Ontario. Needless to say, on reading it, that the nurses were not consulted to any noticeable extent. It will be found in the hospital notes from Ontario. One must wait till the regulations as prescribed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council be published for criticism, but one also asks where could you find another example of regulations standardising a profession taken completely out, so far as can be learned now, of the hands of the members of that profession themselves? Ask the physicians or lawyers what they would think of a like condition for their profession.

It is to be hoped that the Board which the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may appoint be composed exclusively of nurses, who are after all the most interested and most competent to set the standards of the nursing profession. Every effort should be made to see that the standards are sufficiently high that the Ontario R.N. certificate be recognised elsewhere. If they are not, a hardship will surely be felt when reciprocity with other provinces, states and countries is asked for and refused.

The Act, as it stands, holds too many chances for low standards and constant agitation to be of much comfort to those earnest women who have worked so long and with so little apparent success.

Our Canadian sisters have only to study the Report of the meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales which appears in this issue to realise that professional self-determination has still to be fought for, and won in Great Britain. But with a Nurses' Registration Act in force we stand on *terra firma*, and if we know anything of British pluck and tenacity we shall make medical and lay despotism combined with bureaucratic office control, impossible in the near future, and govern ourselves, as we have as much right to do as have other legally constituted professions. There will be no peace until we are

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