

## CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR DISTRICT NURSING IN LONDON.

The Annual Meeting of the Central Council for District Nursing in London was held on February 22nd, in the Board Room of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, Victoria Embankment, Sir William J. Collins, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S., B.Sc., K.C.V.O. (Chairman of the Council), presiding.

The Executive Committee submitted the draft Annual Report of the Council for the year 1922, which was approved.

The Report states that it has been found that in all the Counties adjoining London, with the exception of Middlesex, County Nursing Associations have undertaken the provision of District Nurses, and it has, therefore, been decided to concentrate upon those areas in Greater London without nursing provision which fall within the County of Middlesex. From information derived from the Queen's Jubilee Institute, and the visits of the Secretary-Visitor (Miss A. I. Richardson, formerly Matron of the London Temperance Hospital), it has been ascertained that there are large centres of population in that County without organised provision of District Nursing. Preliminary steps have been taken in the districts of Acton, Hanwell, Wood Green and Ealing, and an Association has been established at Friern Barnet to which a starting grant of £20 has been given.

Questions have been raised in various localities with regard to the conditions and privileges of federation with the Council, and a leaflet setting these out has been prepared.

The Associations federated with the Council are required, as a condition of federation, to pay their nurses at not less than a fixed minimum salary prescribed by the Council. Associations not employing fully trained nurses are not recognised for the purposes of grant. (We hope this means that these nurses must give the guarantee of Registration by the State.) Federated Associations are eligible to participate in the distribution of certain grants, to receive representation on the Council, and through the Secretary-Visitor are kept in touch with the organisation and work of the Council.

The average number of nurses employed by all the Federated Associations is 568.

The report states that the provision of "Visiting Nurses" by the Nursing Associations has not greatly increased, and the case for the provision of such nurses by the District Nursing Organisations has not been found to be urgent. Only four Associations (Hammersmith, Kensington, Paddington and St. Marylebone, and Kilburn and West Hampstead), have taken up such work, and the first two state that there is not a sufficient demand to justify employing any special nurse for this purpose. An arrangement for the provision of Visiting Nurses independently of District Nursing Organisations has been formed during the year, and has, it is stated, probably gone far to meet the need.

There are now twenty-eight nurses whose names are enrolled on the Panel whose services are available for temporary work. Several applications have been made for emergency nurses during the year from Federated Associations, and in each case satisfactory arrangements have been made.

The Executive Committee have postponed making any appeal during the past year specially for District Nurses, on account of the London Hospitals' Combined Appeal, organised by King Edward's Hospital Fund for London. It was hoped that the Nursing bodies might participate in this appeal, but the Committee have not seen their way to allocate any of their funds for this purpose. The amount of invested money remaining in the hands of the Council is not large, and if the grants at present made to Federated Associations are to continue on anything like their present scale some effort must be made to raise a considerable amount for the District Nursing of London.

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, it was resolved to ask the City Parochial Foundation to take into consideration the Council's appeal for help in the establishment and extension of District Nursing Associations in the County of Middlesex when making their next distribution of grants, on the understanding that efforts will be made to raise funds locally.

An instruction was also given to the Executive Committee to take the necessary steps to inaugurate an Appeal for funds on behalf of the Council.

The Executive and Finance Committees were re-appointed, with the addition of Miss Rogers (Superintendent, Hammersmith and Fulham D.N.A.) to the Executive.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Metropolitan Asylums Board for the use of their Board Room, proposed by the Chairman of the London County Council.

## POOR LAW INFIRMARY MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association was held at the Cowdray Club on January 27th, 1922, when the ballot was declared.

The following Hon. Officers were elected:—

Miss Hannaford, Matron, St. Andrew's Hospital, President;

Miss Inglis, Matron, St. Leonard's Hospital, Hon. Treasurer.

Miss Clark, Matron, Whipps Cross Hospital, Hon. Secretary.

The Elected Committee were as follows:—

Miss Alsop, Matron, Kensington Infirmary.

Miss Acton, R.R.C., Matron of Lewisham Hospital.

Miss Booth, Matron, City of Westminster Infirmary.

Miss Bentley, Matron, St. Pancras Infirmary.

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