

of persons who may never have spent a day in a hospital in their lives, and who for gain have nursed the public without any training. We wonder what the thousands of highly qualified, certificated nurses, well trained in Poor Law Infirmaries, think of this support to the grave breach of faith which Dr. Chapple's new Rule effects with them? And will such nurses now wear the "protected" uniform and badge, when it must be shared with women who have not the slightest *right* to either privilege, never having worked to qualify themselves for their responsible duties. It is the recently certificated nurses who will suffer from the economic competition of these "whited sepulchres." The well-paid or pensioned middle-aged matrons, who through the College have made this wrong possible, delude the younger generation by talking of the Acts "working for the future." The younger generation of qualified nurses must earn their living *now*, and the gross injustice of being classed with the ignorant and untrained will, we feel sure, be injurious to their prospects in the highest degree.

Unlike the Midwives Act, the Nurses Act is not compulsory; so that if the public wish to employ untrained attendants they can do so. The injustice to the public under the new Rule will be that they will be deluded by the State into the belief that they are employing trained and efficient nurses when such skill may mean life (and the lack of it death) to their dearest—a cruel delusion.

The Royal Infirmary at Derby has not yet been able to start a Preliminary Training School for its nurses, owing to want of accommodation. It also needs a Sister Tutor. Unless an effort is made to provide such teaching, it is to be feared the School will suffer. Now that a State Examination is on the way pupils will naturally gravitate to institutions at which the most efficient teaching is provided.

The total amount which has been given in response to the recent special appeal for the Cathedral Nursing Society, Newcastle, is £889, so that the debt of £867 has been entirely paid off. While thanking all those who have so kindly sent donations, the Committee now desire to appeal for more annual subscriptions, in order that the present nursing staff need not be reduced. The hon. treasurer, who will gladly receive all subscriptions, is Mr. F. G. Clayton, Barclays Bank, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The Business Meeting of the National Council of Trained Nurses was held in the beautiful drawing-room of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W., which was filled to the doors. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, S.R.N. (President of the Council), was in the chair. The following Leagues and Societies were represented: The Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland; the Irish Matrons' Association; the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council; the National Union of Trained Nurses; the Professional Union of Trained Nurses; the Registered Nurses' Society; the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses; the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, Nurses' League; the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League; the St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, Nurses' League; the Victoria and Bournemouth Nurses' League; St. John's House Nurses' League; the London Temperance Hospital Nurses' League; the Glasgow Royal Infirmary Nurses' League; and guests from New Zealand, South Africa, France, and Holland.

### MINUTES.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

Miss Brey reported that a large number of letters had been received of regret at inability to attend. Amongst them letters from Miss K. M. Olmsted, Chief, Division of Nursing, League of Red Cross Societies; Miss Evelyn T. Walker, Directrice of Child Hygiene and Public Health Nursing, Comité Americain pour les Régions Dévastées de la France, who wrote: "I cannot tell you how sorry I am, as it would have been a great pleasure to meet the English Nurses, of whom I am really one"; Dr. Anna Hamilton, Bordeaux, who sent photographs of the new Florence Nightingale School at Bordeaux; and Miss Maud Lamb, National Association of Trained Nurses of India.

Miss G. A. Rogers, Hon. President, Royal Infirmary, Leicester, Nurses' League, wrote: "I should have liked to join in offering congratulations to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick on the realisation of her long-delayed hope"; and Miss Stewart Bryson, President of the Fever Nurses' Association: "I shall be with you in spirit, and wish you a most successful meeting."

An invitation from the National Council of Women to appoint two representatives to attend the Annual Meeting in Edinburgh, in October, was received; and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss A. Carson Rae undertook to act in this capacity; other correspondence was dealt with.

### REPORT OF THE HON. SECRETARY.

The Report of the Hon. Secretary was presented by Miss Beatrice Cutler, Hon. Secretary. It dealt principally with the questions of State Regis-

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