

NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

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

A meeting of the National Council was held on Saturday, June 27th, at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., at 4.30 p.m. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was in the chair.

After the minutes had been signed, a very large number of letters from important organisations were read and dealt with.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

The President made a short report, and said it was satisfactory that the four official delegates to represent the Council at the meetings of the International Council of Nurses at Helsingfors, had arrangements well in hand, and together with Miss Breay, the International Treasurer, would leave London on July 11th, and travel via Copenhagen and Stockholm, arriving at Helsingfors on Friday, July 17th. Miss H. L. Pearse, Miss Isabel Macdonald, Miss Alice Bryson and Councillor Beatrice Kent, were all scheduled on the Congress programme to take part in the Conference, and Miss Gladys Le Geyt would present the views of the Council in her paper on Midwifery as a part of the trained nurses' curriculum.

The President reported that the four official delegates had met twice, and given exhaustive consideration to the proposed amendments of the International Constitution, and the Council would be invited to consider these and instruct the delegates how to vote on details under consideration.

Miss Breay, Hon. Treasurer, reported that £198 6s. had been subscribed to the official and fraternal delegate funds, and that as by the fraternal delegates themselves paying their own expenses for attendance at the Congress, calculating these at £50 each, some £1,738 had been found, this proved the great interest taken by members of our Council and others in international relations.

The President then reported that a Select Committee has been appointed to consider the Rules of the General Nursing Council with regard to prescribed training for nurses, and the reservation of seats on the Council for Matrons, and read the names of these nominated to form the Select Committee, of whom Sir Richard Whieldon Barnett was one, Miss Wilkinson being the only woman appointed, also that the Registration of Nursing Homes Bill had been withdrawn, upon the promise of the Government to grant a Select Committee to consider the question.

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION FROM THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LIMITED.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the College of Nursing, Ltd., applying for affiliation with the National Council of Trained Nurses, who had also forwarded the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the College.

The President invited the opinion of each of the 21 delegates present, and after full discussion, it was agreed by resolution to invite a Conference between three members of the Council and three members of the College to discuss certain points in the Constitution of the College, with a view to affiliation with the National Council. The three delegates were nominated.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

The following words were added to Articles VII, VIII and IX.

"All of whom shall be State Registered Nurses."

This definition means that the hon. officers and appointed delegates who form the Executive Committee, and the Grand Council of the National Council, must be registered by one of the General Nursing Councils under the Nurses' Registration Acts, before they are eligible to serve.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION.

Action was then taken on the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the International Council.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The President of the Matrons' Council, Miss K. A. Smith, R.R.C., was "At Home" to members of the Matrons' Council on Saturday, June 6th, by kind permission of the Committee of Management, at the West End Hospital, Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, N.W., of which she has recently been appointed Matron.

The Hospital, formerly St. Katharine's Lodge, and the residence of the Lay Masters of St. Katharine's Hospital, stands in lovely grounds with wide spreading lawns, and shady trees. It was an ideal afternoon, and tea was set on little tables, dotted about the lawn, at which friends foregathered, while the President, the Hon. Secretary of the Council, Miss A. E. Hulme, and members of the nursing and domestic staffs of the hospital, cared for their comfort, and served with celerity tea and dainty cakes and other delicacies. The Council was happy in having with it Miss B. G. Alexander, R.R.C., Hon. Secretary of the South African Trained Nurses' Association, and Mrs. Patrick Chesney, R.R.C., of the Trained Nurses' Association of India, both of whom are Official Delegates to the forthcoming meeting of the International Council of Nurses at Helsingfors, who thus had an early opportunity of meeting the Founder of the I.C.N., Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, S.R.N., and some of the Official and Fraternal Delegates.

After tea many of the members took the opportunity of seeing the hospital, which was recently described in this JOURNAL, and then all adjourned to the Collegiate Church of St. Katharine opposite, of special interest to nurses, not only because of its own artistic treasures, but because St. Katharine's was founded by Queen Matilda, wife of Stephen I in the twelfth century, and has since been under the patronage of the Queens of England, and concerned much, though not exclusively, with the care of the sick. Its original site was a piece of land by the Tower of London, purchased by Queen Matilda from the Priory of Holy Trinity, Aldgate, where she built a small Priory, entrusting it to the protection of the powerful Priory.

The Rev. Severne Majendie, M.A., Warden of the Royal Chapel of St. Katharine in the Regent's Park, is also Chaplain to the West End Hospital, and he most kindly gave to the members of the Council, in the chapel, a most interesting historical survey of this Royal Foundation, the vicissitudes to which it has been subjected, and its present position. It is impossible, briefly, to give an adequate report of it, but we commend to all our readers a charming history by Mr. Majendie, of this "Ancient Hospital," published by A. R. Mowbray & Co., Ltd., 28, Margaret Street, London, W., a most fascinating booklet which should be read from cover to cover, and the modest price of which is but 2s. It should be in every Nurses' Library.

PROFESSIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The following Resolution has been sent by the Professional Union of Trained Nurses to the Chairman of the West Sussex Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds:—

Resolution.

"The Professional Union of Trained Nurses strongly deprecates the action of the Governing Body of the West Sussex Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, in allowing a Guard of Honour of V.A.D.s to usurp the place of Nurses on the

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