

NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

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

Presidents and Official Delegates of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland are reminded that a meeting of the Grand Council will be held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W.1, at 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 14th.

As the November Meeting is the annual one, and there is much important business to be transacted, it is hoped that Presidents and Official Delegates of Affiliated Societies will make a point of keeping the date free, and of attending the Meeting.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

A Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland was held at the Club of the Royal British Nurses Association on Saturday, October 24th, at 5 p.m. Previously the members attended the interesting lecture given by Miss Isabel Macdonald, illustrated with lantern slides, on "Our Journey to Helsingfors, and After."

The President, Miss K. A. Smith, R.R.C., was in the Chair, and the first item on the Agenda was to receive the resignation of Miss A. E. Hulme, who has held the position of Hon. Secretary for the last thirteen years. Miss Hulme wrote that it was with very deep regret she resigned the position, but the many claims upon her in other directions left her no option. She desired to thank the members most warmly for all the kindness and courtesy they had shown her during her term of office.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, said those who knew Miss Hulme felt that they must fall in with her wishes, with very great regret. She moved that a warm letter of thanks be sent to Miss Hulme for all her work for the Matrons' Council. This was seconded by Miss Carson Rae, and carried with acclamation.

Miss K. A. Smith asked the Council to allow her to take the opportunity of offering herself for the position of Hon. Secretary; she felt that she would like the work much better than occupying the Chair. It was felt that a better nomination could not be made, and it was unanimously agreed to appoint her to the position. Miss H. L. Pearse, a long-standing, and loyal, member of the Council, was then nominated for the Presidency, and to the pleasure of the Council accepted office.

Miss A. Carson Rae was nominated, and consented to serve on the Legislation Committee of the National Council of Women of Great Britain.

It was agreed to send a letter of congratulation to the Registered Nurses Parliamentary Council, which had worked for the appointment of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the General Nursing Council, on the result achieved.

Also to send to the Minister of Health an expression of satisfaction on the recommendation of the Committee that the Scheme for the Election of the 11 Direct Representatives on the General Nursing Council should provide for an unrestricted election.

REGISTERED NURSES' PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the Registered Nurses Parliamentary Council was held at 431, Oxford Street, London W.1, on Friday, October 23rd. Councillor Beatrice Kent, President, was in the Chair.

The correspondence included an important letter from a Registered Nurse, in regard to the Rules of Training for

the C.M.B. certificate (England) in relation to a shorter term of training for Registered Nurses.

The Council thought that the Rules Modification Order, 1923, making it possible for totally untrained persons to be placed upon the Register, had depreciated the Status of Registered Nurses, in so far that such a claim for shortened training in midwifery, on the supposition that candidates were otherwise experienced—that is that they were fully trained nurses—might result in danger to the public, if totally untrained persons, although registered by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, were granted this privilege.

REPORT ON THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick who made a Report on the Proceedings and Result of the deliberations of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the General Nursing Council prefaced it by congratulating the Council on its signal victory in securing the appointment of the Select Committee, not at all an easy thing to do, and secondly on the fact that, although the Committee was certainly not sympathetic to the aspirations of Registered Nurses, it had ultimately recommended an unrestricted election for the 11 direct representatives of the nurses on the General Part of the Register.

RESOLUTIONS.

It was agreed to send a most cordial vote of thanks to Major Sir Richard Barnett for his good offices in connection with the appointment of the Select Committee, and for his services as a member of it.

To the Minister of Health expressing satisfaction as to the Committee's recommendation on the second count.

To the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, regretting that the Registered Nurses should have had to obtain the appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons before they could obtain a hearing on the two points referred to that Committee. The Registered Nurses Parliamentary Council was of opinion that the General Nursing Council should have got into touch with the Nurses' Organisations on both these counts, a duty which they contemptuously ignored. Apparently the Council was entirely out of touch with the 35,000 Registered Nurses, and the Nation had therefore been put to the expense of several hundred pounds by the setting up of the Select Committee.

It was further decided to protest against the abolition of the Registration Fee by the Council and in regard to the new Form of Certificate adopted—practically an annual licence to practise.

It was also agreed to send votes of thanks to witnesses who gave evidence before the Select Committee in support of the policy of the R.N.P.C. including Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Maude MacCallum, and Mr. Herbert Paterson, and to the Editor of the POOR LAW OFFICERS' JOURNAL for the admirable report of the Select Committee's proceedings in that *Journal*, and the large amount of space devoted to it.

THE POOR LAW INFIRMARY MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

A very successful gathering marked the Annual Reunion of the Association of Poor Law Matrons which was held on Saturday, October 24th, at the Great Central Hotel, London. A large number of Matrons foregathered in the Regent Wing; where a sumptuous tea comprised of all kinds of good things was served.

The small tables, where three or four kindred spirits could discuss things past, present, and future over the cups,

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