

NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

A Meeting of the Grand Council of the National Council of Nurses was held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W.1, on Friday, April 16th, at 5 p.m., Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the Council, presiding.

After the Minutes had been read, and with one addition confirmed, the President announced with deep regret the death on April 5th of Miss Christina F. Forrest, S.R.N., the Hon. Treasurer of the National Council from its foundation in 1904 to 1923, and the meeting rose and passed a vote of sympathy with her relatives and Miss Pearce her partner, and friend of many years, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Bournemouth.

Also the loss sustained by the Council through the death of Miss S. M. Marsters, S.R.N., a Vice-President of the Council, on April 14th, and the meeting, again with a rising vote, directed that an expression of sympathy should be sent to Miss Marsters' sister. Miss M. Breay was deputed to represent the Council at the Memorial Service on April 17th.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Correspondence received included letters of regret at inability to attend.

Communications were reported from the Prime Minister acknowledging the receipt of a letter from the Council in support of the propaganda of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship for equal suffrage for men and women.

From Miss Lloyd Still, President of the Association of Hospital Matrons, saying that if she can be of any service with reference to the Education Committee of the National Council, she will be glad to help in any way possible.

From the Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association, sending a donation of £2 2s. to be ear marked towards the contribution of the College of Nursing, Ltd., in its affiliation with the International Council of Nurses.

From Mrs. Priestley Smith, S.R.N., Hon. Secretary of the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League, notifying her resignation of the position of its Hon. Secretary, and the appointment of Miss Florence Ralph, S.R.N., as her successor.

From Miss Nina D. Gage, R.N., President of the International Council of Nurses, expressing goodwill, and her confidence in the willingness of British Nurses to contribute to the funds requisite for the growth of the International Council.

From Miss Norah E. Green, General Secretary National Council of Women of Great Britain, notifying that its Annual Meeting would be held from October 19th to 21st inclusive, this year, at the Church House, Westminster, and that the National Council of Nurses is entitled to send two representatives.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the Council, and Miss E. M. Musson were appointed as its delegates.

A further letter from Miss Green informed the Council that in view of recent important legislation dealing with Insurance it has been decided by the Executive Committee of the I.C.W. to form a separate Sectional Committee for Insurance.

Miss Beatrice Kent was appointed to serve as the Delegate of the National Council of Nurses on this Committee.

From the Rev. E. F. Garesche, S.J., Editor of *Hospital Progress*, and General Spiritual Director of the International Catholic Guild of Nurses, stating that the Catholic Hospital Association of the United States and Canada is planning to hold a very notable and important meeting at Chicago from June 14-17th at Chicago, just before the Eucharistic Congress, which will bring to Chicago a host of pilgrims from all over the world, and asking to be supplied with the names

and addresses of any physicians, priests, sisters or nurses who are especially interested in hospital work, and who are financially able to attend the Convention and will probably also wish to attend the Eucharistic Congress. It was decided to acknowledge the letter, and to refer it to the Catholic Nurses' Guild.

Letters from the Women's International League were reported, relative to the Women's Pilgrimage in support of Peace to begin about Whitsuntide, and end in London early in July, including the proposal of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, that as a culmination to the Pilgrimage there should be some definite political action, such as a deputation to Parliament. It was decided to place the letters in the office to be consulted by any one who wished.

A letter from Miss C. Reimann, Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, with enclosures, relative to the "Comments on the Constitution and By-Laws of the International Council of Nurses, revised at the Meeting of the Grand Council at Helsingfors, July, 1925, for consideration of the Board of Directors of the I.C.N." at its next meeting.

It was resolved that an explanatory letter should be sent to Miss Reimann.

Letters acknowledging copies of these Comments were also read from the Baroness Mannerheim, Miss Clara D. Noyes, and Miss Adda Eldredge.

APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION.

An application for affiliation with the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was received from the Scottish Matrons' Association. The President of the Council is Miss Gregory Smith, R.R.C., Matron of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and the Hon. Secretary, Miss J. E. Thyne, West House, Morningside, Edinburgh. There are 190 members. The application was unanimously approved on the proposition of Miss E. M. Musson, seconded by Miss Margaret Campbell.

It was also unanimously agreed on the proposition of Miss H. L. Pearse, seconded by Miss R. Darbyshire, that the application of the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association for affiliation, of which the President is Miss M. Christophersen, and the Hon. Secretary Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone, should be accepted, with the proviso that this would become effective when it possesses the requisite number of members, and could then appoint delegates to the Council.

The President said that it was very satisfactory that these self-governing Societies of Matrons should desire to co-operate with the National Council, and she hoped that the Matrons would help the Nurses' Organisations to obtain the rights of self-government, such as the Matrons' Organisations all possessed.

A CONJOINT SCHEME.

Letters were received from various Associations affiliated to the National Association of Nurses relative to the action they proposed to take in relation to a conjoint scheme for raising the *per capita* fee in support of the International Council of Nurses, and an Emergency Fund for the National Council of Nurses. After some discussion it was agreed, on the proposition of Miss Bushby, seconded by Miss Finch, to hold a Bazaar at the end of June or the beginning of July; and a small Committee, consisting of Miss Finch, Miss Hogg, Miss Kathleen Smith, Miss Bryson, and Miss Fowler, subject to their consent to act, and with power to add to their number, were nominated to deal with the question.

The Executive Committee of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses intimated that as an Association affiliated to the National Council of Nurses the League agreed to pay 2½d. per capita as the amount due to the International Council, and had also arranged a special

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)