

Scottish Matrons' Association.—Miss M. M. White, Superintendent Q.V.J.I., Scotland, and Miss C. MacCallum, R.R.C., Matron, Renfrew District Hospital, Paisley.

It was also reported that the President of the Scottish Matrons' Association is Miss Gregory Smith, R.R.C., Matron, Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and the President of the Irish Nurses' Association, Miss Alice Reeves, R.R.C.

It was agreed that all the ladies nominated be appointed on to the Council.

The Election of Hon. Officers.

The next business before the Council was the Election of Hon. Officers for the ensuing period.

THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Mrs. Lancelot Andrews proposed the re-election of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, at which Mrs. Fenwick vacated the Chair which was taken by Miss Pell Smith, Vice President.

Mrs. Andrews said that the inception of the Council was due to Mrs. Fenwick's vision. She had guided its deliberations, and its administration has been efficient and economical and had always been well informed on everything that concerned the Nursing Profession. Moreover, what was rare so far as that in an Association of workers, Mrs. Fenwick's time was her own, and she could devote as much as she thought necessary to the affairs of the National Council. If she once more assumed the office of President they would have, in her, a President who had nurtured the infant she had produced and whose childhood she had watched over, to guide its adult life. She had much pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mrs. Fenwick as President if she would accept office.

This was seconded by Miss Stewart Bryson, and supported by Miss Cox-Davies as Delegate of a society recently affiliated to the Council (The Association of Hospital Matrons).

Mrs. Fenwick said she accepted nomination for another term of office with some diffidence, but would do so if it were the wish of the Council. The nomination of Hon. Officers had, so far, been informally made at the Annual Meeting in November. The Council would note that an Amendment to the Constitution would be submitted for its consideration later in the meeting defining the method of such elections for the future. Now that the Council included an increasing number of representative societies, she thought it right that provision for nominations and elections should be precisely defined.

Miss Pell Smith, supporting the nomination from the Chair said: "Allow me first to say that I feel it a great honour to occupy this Chair, even for a few brief moments, during the election of the President for the ensuing term. It is most essential for the work of the Council that the right person be appointed, for the whole world is now in a critical condition, so it is of the utmost importance that the leadership of each section of work be of the highest and best."

"The Profession of Nursing has a far-reaching influence. It ranks but third in its opportunities for good, and that being so, for evil also. Hence the absolute necessity for leaders with integrity and a broad vision. It is no light thing to propose anyone for the office of President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, so it is a great matter that we know a lady who fulfils all I have suggested, and now I beg therefore to support from the chair the proposition that Mrs. Fenwick be asked to again take up the burden of office which she has so grandly and faithfully filled in the past."

"Apart from Mrs. Fenwick's marvellous capability, I think I can best illustrate her power of carrying on by the following story. A child in Edinburgh was carrying what appeared to be a heavy load, but was really a baby enveloped in a plaid. Stopped by an adult who said, 'What a big burden you have got,' the child emphatically

replied 'Tain't a burden, its me brother.' The same all prevailing love that made the weight of a hefty babe as nothing to that sister, actuates Mrs. Fenwick, enabling her to bear all, and do all.

"Again I beg to support Mrs. Fenwick's election."

The motion was then put from the chair, and carried by acclamation. Miss Pell Smith then vacated the chair, and the President again presided.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The nominations as Vice-Presidents of Miss Lloyd-Still, C.B.E., R.R.C. (President, The Association of Hospital Matrons) (subject to her consent to act, which has now been given), and Miss Kathleen A. Smith, R.R.C. (Hon. Secretary, The Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland) were unanimously approved.

DIRECTORS.

Miss A. W. Gill, R.R.C. (Scottish Matrons' Association) who was present, and consented to act, and Miss A. Reeves, R.R.C. (President, Irish Matrons' Association) who is unable to do so.

HON. SECRETARY AND HON. TREASURER.

Miss H. L. Pearse was unanimously re-elected Hon. Secretary and Miss M. Breay, Hon. Treasurer, for the ensuing year, and on the motion of Miss Cox-Davies it was unanimously agreed to send a message of regret at her absence, of sympathy for the cause which was indisposition to Miss Pearse.

Report of the Hon. Secretary.

The Report of the Hon. Secretary, Miss H. L. Pearse, stated that the Amendments to the Constitution adopted by the Council at its last Annual Meeting had since been incorporated.

The following members of the Council had been appointed Chairmen of Standing Committees:—

Education.—Miss A. Lloyd-Still; *Finance*, Miss E. M. Musson; *Public Health Nursing*, Miss G. le Geyt; *Private and Home Hospital Nursing*, Miss Isabel Macdonald.

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Report of the Hon. Secretary, which was adopted, has been sent to the Hon. Secretaries of the Associations affiliated to the National Council of Nurses, and is therefore available for the information of their members.

Financial Report.

The Hon. Treasurer (Miss M. Breay) presented the Balance Sheet, 1925-1926.

		<i>Receipts.</i>		
		£	s.	d.
Nov. 1925.				
Balance carried forward	4	15	6
Affiliation and Annual Fees	13	12	0
Donation	1	1	0
<i>Per capita</i> contribution to Special Fund International Council of Nurses, to January 31st, 1926.	43	0	6
<i>Per capita</i> contribution to I.C.N. for 1926	8	11	3
Proceeds of American Sale, League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses "for the Emergency Fund of the National Council, and in support of the Finances of the International Council."	34	10	0
Donation from Isla Stewart Memorial Fund for Expenses of Hon. Treasurer I.C.N. to Geneva	15	0	0
Proceeds of Bazaar for <i>per capita</i> subscription to I.C.N. 1926, and National Council of Nurses	306	15	1
		£427	5	4

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