

expensive and limited. Miss Reimann asked for co-operation.

The Council agreed to refer the matter to the Executive Committee.

#### Re. Nominees for Committees and Sub-Committees of the League of Nations.

Miss Reimann asked for further names of suitable women for nomination to the League of Nations Committees.

This was referred to the Executive Committee.

#### Donation to N.C.N.

It was agreed to subscribe £3 3s. to the new office expenses of the National Council of Women.

#### Application for Affiliation.

An application was received from the British College of Nurses asking for affiliation with the Council.

In reply to inquiries, the President stated that the membership was restricted to certificated Registered Nurses on the General Part of the Register. That there were upwards of 1,100 Fellows and Members, that the Governing Body was entirely composed of professional Nurses, and that the College was endowed with £100,000. That the application should be accepted was proposed by Miss Kathleen A. Smith, R.R.C., Vice-President, and seconded by Miss Waind, delegate, League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, and agreed.

#### Election of Officers.

Miss H. L. Pearse was re-elected Hon. Secretary, and Miss M. Brey was re-elected Hon. Treasurer.

Miss Villiers was elected Vice-President, in the place of Miss E. Pell-Smith, retired in rotation.

Miss Vincent, President, League of Royal Infirmary Nurses' League, and Miss Brownsdon, L.C.C. School Nurses' Social Union, were nominated as Directors.

#### Resolution.

The President considered that it was time to discuss arrangements for the meeting of the International Council of Nurses at Montreal in 1929.

The following Resolution was proposed by Miss Cox-Davies, and seconded by Miss Gill:—

"That a Sub-Committee be appointed to deal with the arrangements in connection with the meeting of the International Council of Nurses in Montreal in 1929."

The Resolution was adopted.

It was agreed that names of those willing to serve should be sent for consideration to the Executive Committee, to consist of seven persons.

#### Admission of Associations eligible for Affiliation.

It was agreed that Associations eligible for affiliation shall be admitted by the Executive Committee.

It was agreed that nominations for Hon. Officers shall be sent in by October 1st in each year for insertion on the Agenda of the Annual Meeting of the Grand Council.

The President made a short statement concerning the work of the Joint Standing Committee of the Women's International Organisations, which is primarily concerned with the admission of suitable women to Committees and Sub-Committees of the League of Nations, to which she and Miss Musson had been elected by the Board of Directors of the I.C.N.

After a vote of thanks to the Chair, proposed by Miss Musson and seconded by Miss Darbyshire, for which Mrs. Fenwick expressed thanks, the meeting terminated and the members of the Grand Council took tea together in the Library of the Medical Society of London.

#### INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at the Plane Tree Restaurant, Great Russell Street, on November 9th, to consider the formation of an Association of Matrons of Fever Hospitals.

The objects of the proposed Association were placed before the meeting by Miss S. A. Villiers, and it was unanimously agreed that there was a very real need for such an Association.

It was proposed that Miss Villiers be asked to take office as President and Miss Stewart Bryson was elected Hon. Treasurer.

The Hon. Secretary, Miss D. Webb, of the Isolation Hospital, Palmer's Green, will be pleased to hear from any Fever Hospital Matron who is interested in the scheme and who wishes to join.

The Executive Committee met by kind invitation of Miss Morris at the South Western Hospital, Stockwell, S.W., on Wednesday, November 23rd. Members present were: Miss Villiers, Miss Drakard, Miss Stevenson, Miss Gooding, Miss I. Webb, Miss Stewart Bryson and the Hon. Secretary. It was proposed by Miss Bryson, seconded by Miss Stevenson, that Miss Drakard be elected Chairman.

A number of letters were read showing that considerable interest has been aroused among the Matrons belonging to this special branch of nursing which we hope augurs well for its future success.

#### NURSING HOMES (REGISTRATION) BILL.

Monday, November 28th.

DR. VERNON DAVIES asked the Prime Minister if he would grant facilities before the end of this session for the Nursing Homes (Registration) Bill.

MR. BALDWIN replied: I can make no promise in regard to time being given for Private Members' Bills, as the final decision must of course depend on the state of business.

DR. VERNON DAVIES: Is the Prime Minister aware that the differences between the opponents of the Bill are so fundamental that unless he uses his power to pass the Bill the grave irregularities and scandals which were disclosed before the Select Committee appointed by this House will go on unchecked to the detriment of the health of the patients in some nursing homes.

As the promoters of the Bill would prefer the Bill not to pass unless amendments which, quite rightly, they consider essential are carried, and are asking Members of Parliament to support these, at the risk of losing the Bill, there appears little prospect of time being available for its consideration at this stage of the Session.

#### PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS.

Dr. Graham Little, Member of Parliament for London University, has introduced into the House of Commons the Medical Practitioners' Communications Privilege Bill, a measure which, he explained, was intended to remove something like a deadlock which had resulted from a conflict between the regulations issued by a Government Department in 1916, and the law as interpreted by certain recent legal decisions.

The Bill provides that "any information obtained by a duly registered medical practitioner from any patient treated for venereal disease . . . shall be regarded as confidential, and shall be privileged from disclosure in a Court of Law."

The Bill, as members of the Nursing profession will realise, is of the highest importance.

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