

NURSES' ORGANIZATIONS.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W.1., on Saturday, February 5th, at 3 p.m., in the absence of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick (President) from indisposition, Miss Kathleen A. Smith, R.R.C. (Vice-President) was in the chair.

Letters of regret at inability to attend were received from Miss E. Pell Smith (Vice-President), Miss C. H. McAra (Director), Miss McDonald (President, Victoria and Bourne-mouth Nurses' League), and Miss Gregory Smith, R.R.C. (President Scottish Matrons' Association).

The Hon. Secretary (Miss H. L. Pearse) presented the following letters:—

From Miss A. Lloyd-Still, C.B.E., R.R.C., accepting office as a Vice-President of the Council, and thanking those who have desired this appointment for the trust they have placed in her.

From the Hon. Mrs. Franklin (President of the National Council of Women of Great Britain) appealing for a contribution towards the £5,000 capital it is desired to raise to enable the Council to take larger Headquarters Offices. The letter was referred to the next meeting of the Grand Council.

A letter from Miss A. W. Gill, R.R.C., regretting her inability to act as a delegate from the Council to the Conference convened by the Labour Party to consider the Draft Report on the Nursing Profession as she was shortly going abroad and other communications, including a charming calendar from the Memorial Committee of the Canadian Nurses' Association, and a notification from the Women's Election Committee of a Complimentary Dinner to Peeresses in their own rights who would be entitled to sit in the House of Lords on the passage of Lord Astor's proposed Bill.

A letter from Miss M. Thornton, A.R.R.C., acquainting the Council with the decision of the Irish Matrons' Association to resign their membership of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, as they now have their own National Council of Nurses of the Irish Free State, was received with regret, but it was recognised as appropriate that they should affiliate with their own National Council on its formation.

A Successful Function.

Miss Breay reported that a cheque for £34 11s. 6d. had been received from Mrs. Northwood as a result of the most enjoyable and amusing Carnival Dance which she had organised so successfully in aid of the funds of the Council. The Executive Committee expressed its very sincere appreciation of Mrs. Northwood's practical interest in the Council, and of the substantial and welcome gift received from her in consequence for its funds.

The Bazaar.

The next business was to consider the methods to be adopted to raise funds for the contribution of the National Council of Nurses to the International Council of Nurses for 1927.

It was agreed to arrange for a Bazaar on the lines of that held last year, preferably about the 19th and 20th of May. That a Sub-Committee should be formed, and that those who so successfully organised the last Bazaar should be invited to serve upon it, with power to add to their number.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick (President) intimated that she would again organise an Antique Stall, and the following stalls were guaranteed in the room:—Refreshments, Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland; Flowers and Plants, Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council; Sweet

Stall, Miss Bryson, Fever Nurses' Section R.N.P.C., so a good beginning was made.

It was agreed to ask Miss Isabel Macdonald (who has since consented) to organise side-shows.

The I.C.N. Conference.

Consideration was then given to the arrangements in connection with the Interim Conference of the International Council of Nurses at Geneva next July. It was decided (1) to ask Members of Societies affiliated to the National Council of Nurses, and other Nurses who contemplate attending the Conference to notify the Hon. Secretary of the Council, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.1., as soon as possible, so that an approximate idea may be obtained of the number likely to attend from Great Britain. Accommodation in Geneva is limited, and it is desirable to secure it without delay, as Geneva is a convenient and popular centre, and the Conference is likely to attract a large attendance.

It was agreed to make enquiries as to hotel accommodation, and also as to the inclusive cost from England of journey and hotels.

It was agreed to empower the Hon. Officers to make any arrangements as to speakers after hearing from Miss Reimann what is proposed.

A New Director.

It was agreed to invite Miss Helen Lamb, S.R.N., Matron of Claybury Mental Hospital, to act as a Director. (Miss Lamb has since accepted office.)

Application for Affiliation.

An application for affiliation from the Royal Waterloo Hospital Nurses' League was considered. The League has over the requisite number of members (50), and the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Women and Children is affiliated to the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich, and is recognised by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

The nurses by means of the affiliation above-mentioned obtain a certificate of General Training.

The Meeting then terminated.

LETTER FROM THE TREASURER, I.C.N.

The following letter has been received by Miss H. L. Pearse, Hon. Secretary National Council of Nurses:—

The Hon. Secretary National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

DEAR MISS PEARSE,—As you are aware, the Committee of the Isla Stewart Memorial Fund were good enough to grant me a sum of money to defray the expense of a visit to Geneva, in order that I might see the newly-established Headquarters of the International Council of Nurses, of which Association I am Treasurer, and have the opportunity to talk over various matters of business with Miss Reimann, the Secretary. It may interest the members of the National Council to hear something of my visit.

January is not considered the best time to see Geneva, as there is much rain and mist there in the winter, but I was fortunate inasmuch as there was little or no rain, several bright intervals, and on my first and last days it was really sunny, with beautiful views of Mont Blanc on the one side and of the snow-covered Jura Mountains on the other. Also it must be admitted that the pale grey mist over the Lake has a beauty of its own. Even when there is thick mist in the valley, there is often bright sunshine only a short distance away in the mountains, where numbers of people may be seen "ski-ing" or "lugin" on the snowy slopes.

The Headquarters of the I.C.N. have been established, as all will remember, since the last meeting and Congress in Helsingfors; they are on the first floor of No. 1; Place du Lac, and consist of two offices, one large and one small;

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