

President, the provision hitherto having empowered the Executive Committee to nominate three candidates to be elected by postal ballot.

For the future any six members may nominate a candidate for the office of President (who has consented to serve if elected) on Nomination Papers provided for the purpose, and all such nominations must appear on the Ballot Paper. Should no nominations, or less than three, be received, the Executive Committee is empowered to nominate candidates for election to the number of three. There was a good deal of discussion on this clause, and we have to thank the Chair for the courtesy and impartiality with which she conducted the business.

The Social Gathering.

The majority of the members present gladly assembled after the meeting in the very beautiful new recreation rooms in the Nurses' Home, where tea was served at little tables so that friends could gather together and enjoy reminiscences. The larger of these rooms is finely panelled in oak and softly lighted, and *such* exquisite rugs (a gift) on the floor, aroused much admiration, and many members paid a visit to the Isla Stewart Memorial Library close by, and studied the life-like plaque in bronze, appropriately placed over the mantelpiece. This room is also oak-paneled and is greatly valued, meeting as it does a growing need for study. One can hardly realise that it is twenty years ago since Isla Stewart passed on from active devotion as Matron to St. Bartholomew's Hospital—her personality was so vital—it still shines forth.

MENTAL HOSPITAL MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The 27th quarterly meeting of the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association was held at 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, on December 14th, 1929, and was preceded by a meeting of the executive committee. Members present were Miss Gray Williams, Miss Cleary, Miss Brown, Miss Shreeve, Miss Ptolmey, Miss Pearson, Miss Hunt, Miss Lamb, Miss Cuthbert, Miss Sewart, Miss Hearder, Miss Cumming and Miss McNicol.

Letters of regret were received from the following: Miss Dowson, Miss Laurence, Miss Christopherson, Miss Heron, Miss Fraser, Miss Hunter, Miss Roden Baker, Miss Watson, Miss Roberts, Miss Erskine, Miss Nolan, Miss Hopper, and telegrams from Miss Smith and Miss Edwards.

Miss Cuthbert was in the chair, and the items on the agenda were taken in rotation and dealt with as follows:—

AGENDA.

- (1) To confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
- (2) To read letters of regret and correspondence.
- (3) To discuss the alteration of Constitution 3, viz., "Hon. officers . . . must be members who are actively engaged in Mental work."
- (4) The election of officers.
- (5) To elect two members of the Executive Committee.
- (6) To discuss submitted suggestions for the Association Badge.
- (7) Any other business
- (8) To arrange the date and place of the next meeting.

The Alteration in the Constitution 3.

Miss Hearder said that she thought that the Chairman should be a matron holding a hospital office, but this was not necessary for the Treasurer or for the Honorary Secretary. As Treasurer she was most grateful to her Steward for auditing her books and for the help that she had received from the Association.

Miss Cumming expressed the hope that Miss Hearder would continue to hold the post of Treasurer. Miss

Header said that she had a very busy year ahead on account of moving her hospital into the country. It was proposed by Miss Sewart and seconded by Miss Cleary, that Miss Hearder be re-elected as Treasurer. This was carried unanimously.

Miss Cuthbert put the proposed alteration in the Constitution to the Meeting, and the motion was carried "that Honorary Officers need not be members actively engaged in mental work," and that honorary members were eligible for the posts of Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Miss Lamb was elected Chairman; proposed by Miss Cuthbert and seconded by Miss Hearder, and Miss Smith and Miss Shreeve were elected to the Executive Committee. Miss Christopherson was to be written to and asked if she would be willing to serve in the same capacity.

The Question of an Association Badge discussed.

Miss Laurence, Miss Macaulay and Miss Scott Seymour had written to say they were not in favour of it. The question of adopting a Badge was put to the meeting, and the members not wishing to have it, the motion was lost.

Miss Webb, matron of the Coulsdon Mental Hospital, Surrey, was elected a member; proposed by Miss Lamb and seconded by Miss Cumming.

Miss Hearder gave her financial report for the year. The balance at the end of the year was £9 1s. 6d.; after receiving subscriptions the balance on December 6th was £36 15s. 6d. Miss Hearder also described her pleasure at recently meeting at tea, at National Council Headquarters, 39, Portland Place, W.1, Miss Mabel F. Hersey, President of the Canadian Nurses' Association.

It was arranged to send £5 5s. to the Nurses' Fund for Nurses, and to give £5 5s. to Miss I. Macdonald for her "House Beautiful" Fund.

The next meeting will be at Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, Surrey, by the kind invitation of Dr. Devine (Medical Superintendent), who will address the members.

Mental Hospital Matrons' Association.

BALANCE SHEET, YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1929.

	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward	107	8	6
1 Entrance Fee at 7s. 6d.	0	7	6
7 Entrance Fees at 5s.	1	15	0
3 Subscriptions at £1 1s.	3	3	0
46 Subscriptions at 10s.	23	0	0
39 Donations at 2s.	3	18	0
32 Donations at 1s.	1	12	0
Balances refunded by Hon. Secretary	0	15	8
Due to Hon. Treasurer.	2	5	0
	£144	4	8

	£	s.	d.
Expenses of Meetings	2	11	9
Advances to Secretary	2	0	0
Printing and Stationery	16	1	5
Donations and Fees	11	16	11
Special Grant to Hon. Treasurer	90	0	0
Postages	2	0	1
Refund subn., part	1	2	0
Transit	9	11	0
	£135	3	2
Balance as per Pass Book	9	1	6
	£144	4	8

Balance at Bank as at 6th December, 1929: £36 15s. 6d.

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