

NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland was held at the Royal British Nurses' Association Club, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, on Wednesday, February 19th. The President, Miss Helen Pearse, was in the chair. Before commencing the business of the meeting Miss Pearse informed the members of the sudden death of Miss Carson Rae, a most prominent member of the Council, which had taken place the previous day. A standing silent vote of sympathy was passed, and the Hon. Secretary instructed to write to the relatives.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. In the unavoidable absence of Miss S. A. Villiers the Hon. Secretary presented the report of the Hon. Treasurer, which was received and adopted. The report of the Hon. Secretary was also received and adopted, and a vote of thanks was passed from the chair to both these Honorary Officers.

The election of the Honorary Officers then took place, the ladies now acting all consenting to serve for another year. It having become necessary that two delegates should be appointed to represent the Council on the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, Miss Solomn, Matron, Hendon Hospital, and Miss Sanderson, Matron, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, were elected.

Miss Stewart Bryson consented to act as a representative of the Council on the Parliamentary and Legislative Committee of the National Council of Women, in place of the late Miss Carson Rae.

The President then said a few words regarding the work and usefulness of the Council, afterwards inviting discussion thereon. After a considerable amount of discussion had taken place it was proposed and carried unanimously that a meeting be held on Saturday, May 10th, to discuss the possibility of future development.

This concluded the business of the meeting and the Members adjourned for tea.

KATHLEEN A. SMITH,
Hon. Secretary.

INFECTIOUS HOSPITAL MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association was held at 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, on Saturday, February 8th, at 3 p.m.

Miss Villiers, President of the Association, was in the Chair.

Reports were received from the Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Treasurer, both of which were regarded as very satisfactory. Miss Bryson also gave a report of the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

The following resolution, the principle of which was approved at the previous meeting was considered and it was decided to forward a copy to the Minister of Health:—

"That this Meeting of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association strongly recommends that the possession of a State Fever Certificate in Fever Nursing be made an essential qualification for Nurses engaged in the Public Health Service, particularly in such branches as School Nursing and Health Visiting."

Miss Bryson brought before the Meeting the subject of the retention on the State Register of the names of Nurses proved guilty of theft in a Court of Law, and Miss Drakard strongly urged that some action be taken on the matter. Miss Villiers asked leave to withdraw from the chair while this discussion was in progress on the ground that, as a Member of the General Nursing Council, it would not be in order for her to participate in any action which might arise. Miss Drakard expressed very strongly her feeling

that some action should be taken in order to maintain the recognition of high ethical standards in connection with the maintenance of the Register. Several Members present supported her in this view; one Member expressed the opinion that the General Nursing Council could be left to deal with the matter. Ultimately, the following resolution, proposed by Miss Drakard, and seconded by Miss Bryson, was carried:—

"That this Meeting of the Infectious Hospitals' Matrons' Association most strongly protests against the retention, on the State Register, of the names of Nurses who have been convicted of theft and urges upon the General Nursing Council the importance of maintaining the purity of the State Register in such matters, both in the interests of the Public and the Profession of Nursing."

It was agreed that the resolution be forwarded to the Chairman of the General Nursing Council.

After the Meeting the Members present were entertained to tea by Miss Villiers, and expressed great appreciation of a beautiful birthday cake which she had provided, with its two candles indicating the age of this, one of the youngest of our Nurses' Organisations.

LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

It has been suggested that the League should endow a bed in the Hospital in commemoration of the opening of the new surgical block and in response to the appeal that has been launched recently.

In view of the fact that the Appeal Committee may have already circularised our League Members, the Executive Committee think it advisable to send this notice, so that members may have the opportunity (if they prefer) of joining in with the League scheme in preference to the general appeal.

Schemes will be brought forward for approval at the Summer General Meeting.

SOUTH AFRICAN TRAINED NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Miss B. G. Alexander, who for the last fifteen years has been the Hon. Secretary of the South African Trained Nurses' Association, has been elected General President of the Association in succession to Mrs. Bennie. Miss Alexander attended the meeting of the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses at Helsingfors in 1925, as the Delegate of the S.A.T.N.A., and so is well known to many Internationalists. She is at present Matron of the General Hospital, Johannesburg, and a Member of the South African Medical Council. We wish her a happy and successful term of office.

The new Organising Secretary is Mrs. Horwood, of Cape Town, but as she is shortly going to Europe and America she will not take office until she returns in September. She is just the right person to follow Miss Alexander, says the *South African Nursing Record*, and her ability as an organiser and in debate is well known in the Cape, where she is a town councillor of Cape Town, and chairman of the House Committee of the Somerset Hospital.

AN ATTRACTIVE POST.

An attractive post is at present vacant in Sarawak for a Registered Nurse, interested in Infant Welfare Work, as Superintendent of an Infant Welfare Centre. Full particulars may be obtained from the Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7. Miss Macdonald reports that the Government has been most generous to the four nurses who have been "planted" there already.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)