

The Secretary of the Association, Miss Sewart, read the Minutes of the previous meeting, and gave a report of the work of the Association during the last three months.

Miss Tanner, Matron of the Royal Eastern Counties Hospital for Mental Defectives, was elected a member of the Association.

An invitation had been received from Dr. Rambaut and Miss Pirie, of St. Andrew's Hospital, Northampton, to hold the next meeting of the Association at that Institution, which was cordially accepted.

Miss Sewart reported that a meeting had been held between the Association of Hospital Matrons' and the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association, to discuss the possibilities of the interchange of Probationers between General and Mental Hospitals. This suggestion was received with sympathy by the members of the Association of Hospital Matrons, but they pointed out that it would be impossible for them to accommodate mental nurses during the time they were in a General Hospital, and it would also be impossible for them to send nurses in training to a Mental Hospital to gain experience in mental nursing. It was pointed out that Mental Hospitals were necessarily isolated and that it would be impossible for them to give the nurses accommodation and to send them daily to a General Hospital for instruction.

Miss Sewart announced that her two years of office were completed, she was unanimously re-elected and consented to serve for a further period.

Miss Watson resigned from the executive committee, and Miss Gardner was elected in her place.

Following the meeting a most interesting lecture with lantern slides was given by Miss Macdonald on the History of Nursing, showing its development through the ages from the primitive methods of Ancient Greece to the present high standards.

#### INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, at Cambridge, by kind invitation of Miss Millie Mitchell, Matron of the Borough Isolation Hospital. It has been planned to visit some of the Colleges after the business meeting.

Will members please note and keep this date free.

#### THE COLLEGE OF NURSING.

The attitude of the College of Nursing towards the Nursing Profession (Wages and Hours) Bill, in charge in the House of Commons of Mr. Fenner Brockway (Member of Parliament for Leyton, E.) is defined in the following Resolution passed by its Parliamentary Committee:—

"That it is not in the interest of the Nursing Profession or of the public, that standards of hours of duty and salary should be enforced by legislation, since experience has shown that these questions can best be settled by the nurses themselves acting through their organisations."

#### THE AMERICAN NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The good results to the community from the effective organisation of nurses has quite recently been emphasised in the United States. Miss Clara D. Noyes, the International First Vice-President, and Director, Nursing Service, American Red Cross, writes us: "You have perhaps read in the papers of the suffering in this country caused by the severe drought which affected twenty-one of our States and brought a great deal of additional work to the American Red Cross. While the services of our Red Cross Nurses were not needed in any great numbers, it has meant, however, the organisation of the nurses throughout the country for the purpose of helping to raise the drought relief funds. Fortunately, our American Nurses' Association, with its State, District and Alumnae Associations, makes it comparatively easy to

reach out to the individual nurse in the farthest part of the country. The value of the affiliation of the American Red Cross Nursing Service\* with the American Nurses Association is demonstrated at a time like this. In addition, there are the State and Local Committees on Red Cross Nursing Service, which must also be brought into the picture. The nurses are wonderful givers and have responded most generously to this call for assistance."

We are pleased to know that Miss Noyes is coming to Europe—going first to Bordeaux to be present at the Dedication of the American Nurses' Memorial School building which houses the Florence Nightingale School at Bagatelle; American nurses have thus completed their Memorial to their colleagues who gave their lives in the service of humanity in the Great War. Miss Noyes is authorised to attend the ceremony, which will take place towards the end of June, by the American Nurses' Association, as Chairman of the Memorial Committee. It will be a proud day for her and for Dr. Anna Hamilton, whose life has been devoted to the training of nurses in France—on Florence Nightingale teaching—and whose work we have greatly admired these many years.

Miss Noyes is to be at Geneva, and then hopes to pay a visit to England, where she will be welcomed warmly by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, we have no doubt.

#### NIGHTINGALEIANA.

##### (THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INSTITUTE OF HONORABLES).

The Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables of the United States of America, a young and energetic Society founded in Los Angeles on May 12th, 1928, on the anniversary of the birthday of Miss Florence Nightingale, O.M., to perpetuate her memory, and to encourage endeavours which may serve to enlarge the merciful designs to which she dedicated her life, has made interesting plans for the observance of her birthday this year.

There will be four separate ceremonies, one in Los Angeles, a second in London, a third in Florence, Italy, and a fourth in Paris, France. In London a wreath will be laid at the Nightingale Monument, Waterloo Place. This wreath will be an exact duplicate of the one which was laid at the tomb at Wellow by Nurse Clara Jones last August. The materials will be sent from Los Angeles to London and a London florist will manufacture the wreath, using a photograph of the East Wellow wreath as his model. In Florence, Italy, a wreath in all respects similar to the London wreath will be put in the Villa Colombaia, Miss Nightingale's birthplace. In Paris a third wreath will be placed at the hospital of the Sisters of Charity, where Miss Nightingale had student experience in nursing and hospital administration. Mrs. Walker, Jr., is chairman of the Committee in charge of the plans for the London observance.

For the Los Angeles observance elaborate preparations are under way. In all Protestant churches and Jewish synagogues special Florence Nightingale services will be held. A military observance will be held at the U.S. military post at Fort McArthur. A Los Angeles High School (newly built) will be named "Florence Nightingale High School." In every class room of the six hundred schools of all grades in Los Angeles and vicinity, a half hour of the birthday will be given over to an address by the teachers to their pupils explaining Miss Nightingale's glorious humanitarian benefactions, and emphasizing to their pupils that emulation of Miss Nightingale's example in their present and future careers is the most useful work they could encourage.

The Founder of the Institute is Miss Georgia Bryton.

\*The American Red Cross Nursing Service is composed of thoroughly trained graduate nurses.

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