

out that the National and International Councils of Nurses were rightly non-political and non-secretarian, and that as many male mental nurses are in a strong trades union associated with one political Party they were no longer as formerly non-political. It was necessary to emphasise this.

Miss Macaulay said there appeared to be misunderstanding on this point. The League of Mental Hospital Nurses was definitely a professional body, and had appealed to the National Council to be allowed to co-operate with it as such, there would be no danger of the League becoming a trades union. Their aim was definitely professional, and non-political.

After further discussion from a national and international point of view it was agreed "That the Hon. Officers of the National Council should define and submit to the Annual Meeting regulations under which Registered Mental Nurses might in future be affiliated to the National Council of Nurses."

In reply to a question from Miss Isabel Macdonald, the Chairman said that any decision taken in the future would not be retrospective.

The Report was adopted.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The Chairman invited Miss Drakard the President of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association to speak to the following Resolution:—

"The Members of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association are much concerned at the increasing tendency in the smaller Borough and Provincial Hospitals to deprive the Matron of her duty of selecting candidates for appointment in the Hospital of which she is the Matron.

It is felt that as she is responsible for the efficiency of the Nursing Staff she should engage or recommend them for appointment. Also, that there is a greater feeling of confidence between the Matron and Members of the Staff when they are selected by her.

On this subject, therefore, the members of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association unanimously agreed to place their views before your President, that they would be grateful for any advice as to what steps could be taken to oppose this innovation upon the authority of the Matrons' Office, and if she thinks it advisable to bring the subject before the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain for discussion."

This was moved by Miss Drakard who emphasised the anxiety of her colleagues on the depreciation of their power. Miss W. P. Solomon seconded.

Miss Musson said that the communication before the meeting was an expression of concern and of feeling, and an application for advice, but scarcely a resolution. Discussion ensued during which Miss MacManus suggested that the selection by the Matron of the trained staff for appointments should be added, as she thought all Matrons selected probationers.

On the proposal of Miss Musson seconded by Miss Cochrane, approved by Miss Drakard, it was agreed that a definite Resolution on the subject should be tabled for consideration by the Grand Council Meeting in November.

#### REPORT OF PROGRESS OF THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

The following Report was presented:—

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain is directly represented on the Committee of Management, the Executive authority of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., and Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., having been appointed delegates.

This Committee has met four times, twice at 15, Manchester Square, and twice at St. Thomas's Hospital, London. The Committee receives Reports from the three Sub-Committees—the Education Committee, the Ways and Means Committee and the House Committee.

Your President has a seat on all four Committees, and has attended each of the 14 Committees summoned.

Miss Cochrane is on the Education Committee and House Committee, and Miss Musson on the Ways and Means Committee, which is in fact the Finance Committee.

The Committee of Management has had a number of matters of organisation under consideration, some of which will be referred to the Meeting of the Grand Council, which is summoned to meet in London on July 2nd, 1935.

There has been a full complement of 21 International Students resident for the Session 1934-1935. The Certificates of these Students will be awarded at Bedford College on July 4th. Miss Annie W. Goodrich, late Dean of Yale School of Nursing, Yale University, New Haven, U.S.A., and Hon. President, International Council of Nurses, has consented to give the Address to the Florence Nightingale Students, which will be an occasion for sincere congratulation for them, and to the Nursing World at large.

It is estimated that the overhead expenses in the conduct of the work of the Foundation, will amount to some £1,500 per annum beyond the fees of £250 each for 20 students, and that a sum of £40,000 will be required to be invested if the work is to be conducted with satisfaction.

It has been decided, on the recommendation of your President, to name the residence at 15, Manchester Square, Florence Nightingale International House, and a brass plate has been designed for the front door bearing this name.

#### The National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Great Britain.

The Nurses' National Associations and National Red Cross Societies have been invited to form National Memorial Committees in countries where such organisations exist, and the initiative has been taken by some sixteen nurses' Organisations with this aim, but time will be needed to perfect their union and financial efficiency. In the meanwhile, the National Memorial Committee of Great Britain has been actively engaged, and the five members of our National Council—Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, Dame Anne Beadsmore Smith, Miss E. M. Musson, Miss Helen Dey and your President, have attended as regularly as possible the Meetings, held at the Office of the British Red Cross Society.

A letter of Appeal signed by the President, the Duchess of Devonshire, Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, Sir Arthur Stanley and your President, was inserted in "The Times" on January 12th, 1935. The response was not as generous as we could have hoped, but it must be kept in mind that in this King's Jubilee year, the appeals are so numerous that nothing unless intimately connected with it, will open the public purse. The Committee had therefore undertaken the organisation of an International Jubilee Costume Ball at the Albert Hall on May 6th, Accession Day, in support of the Foundation, but owing to difficulties of transport the Ball has been postponed until July.

The ultimate aim is to endow the Foundation with £200,000 as an Educational Memorial to Miss Nightingale. In the meanwhile, no doubt, progressive schemes in addition to the present Courses available will be considered and agreed. What the Nurses of the world have to remember is, that if prompted by gratitude they *unite* with the help of the public to raise the money, they can do it, that if it is not forthcoming they are in part to blame. Failure in such a Cause is impossible.

It was proposed by Miss E. S. Innes, seconded by Miss A. M. Bushby and agreed that the Report be approved.

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