

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain was held at the House of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7., on Saturday, March 14th, at 3.30 p.m. The President, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

As this was the first time the members had met since the death of our late beloved King, the President invited the members to rise in silent tribute to His Majesty's memory. She reported that she had felt sure the Council would wish her to convey to Her Majesty Queen Mary its respectful sympathy, and its consciousness that the world had lost a great and beneficent influence, and this she did by telegram, without delay, and received the following telegram:—

SANDRINGHAM, O.H.M.S.

"I AM COMMANDED TO CONVEY TO YOU AND ALL WHO JOINED IN YOUR MESSAGE THE QUEEN'S SINCERE THANKS FOR THEIR KIND WORDS OF SYMPATHY."—
PRIVATE SECRETARY

The Hon. Secretary.

The President then said that as the present was the first meeting since Miss Keys-Wells had accepted the position of Hon. Secretary she would formally introduce her, although she was already well known to many of the members. The notification of Miss Keys-Wells' acceptance of office was received with acclamation.

Correspondence.

The correspondence included letters from Miss Monica C. Grobel, M.A., General Secretary of the National Council of Women of Great Britain, (1) Defining the terms on which a nationally organised Society is accepted by the Council; (2) the appointment of a Sub-Committee to examine the representation of the Affiliated Societies at the Representative Council Meeting of the N.C.W.; (3) That the Representative Council Meeting will be held at Southport from June 29th to July 3rd, 1936, and other matters.

Appointment of Vice-Presidents.

Miss A. S. Bryson, Miss Norah Farrant, Miss P. Sanderson and Miss W. P. Solomon, whose terms of office as Vice-Presidents had expired, were unanimously re-elected for another term of office.

Hon. Secretary's Report.

The Hon. Secretary reported with deep regret the death of Mrs. Lancelot Andrews on February 10th. The Matrons' Council, of which she was a distinguished member, was

represented at the service held at Golders Green by the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Susan A. Villiers, J.P. She also reported that since the Council last met considerable progress had been made in regard to the Florence Nightingale International Foundation. The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain had already financed six Scholarships and proposed to award one for 1936-1937.

The Council had been represented at the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women at Leicester in October by Miss E. T. Bickerton, R.R.C., and Miss M. Muriel.

The members of the Council serving on other bodies during the past year had been:—

General Nursing Council for England and Wales: Miss S. A. Villiers, J.P.

The National Council of Women of Great Britain:—
Executive Committee: Miss Norah Farrant.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain (as delegates): Miss F. M. Campbell and Miss P. Sanderson, O.B.E.

Parliamentary and Legislation Committee: Miss G. Lord.

Public Service Committee: Miss S. A. Villiers, J.P.

London Branch: Miss Norah Farrant.

Miss Farrant notified that she was not standing again for election to the Executive Committee but was willing to represent the Council on the London Branch, Miss F. M. Campbell having resigned the position of Delegate of the Matrons' Council on the National Council of Nurses, Miss Silvia Vian was elected to succeed her.

Miss S. A. Villiers presented the Hon. Treasurer's Report to the end of 1935, which closed the year with a small balance in hand.

Both reports were adopted.

Concerning the representation of the Matrons' Council on the National Council of Women, its representatives under the new scheme having been reduced from two to one, it was agreed to ask for information as to what had influenced the N.C.W. in making this reduction.

Miss Bickerton presented a very interesting report on the proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the N.C.W. at Leicester in October.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick drew attention to the publication of the Report of the Scottish Departmental Committee presented by the Secretary of State to Parliament by command of His Majesty, and advised those present to study it.

She also reminded the Council that the International Congress of Nurses convened by the International Council of Nurses would be held in London in July, 1937, and that, as the hostess country, the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was responsible for the financial arrange-



MISS CONSTANCE L. KEYS-WELLS, S.R.N., F.B.G.N.,
Hon. Secretary, The Matrons' Council of Great Britain.

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