

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

A meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain was held on November 28th, at the Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, with Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., in the Chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and discussed and new members were admitted.

Miss Reay gave a report of the meeting held at the headquarters of the General Nursing Council, 20, Portland Place, on November 26th to ascertain the views of the numerous Associations of Nurses on the suggestion of the setting up of a Supplementary Register for semi-trained Nurses to nurse the Chronic Sick. The delegates to this meeting for the Matrons' Council were Miss Reay and Mrs. Mackenzie.

The nominations to the National Council of Nurses were confirmed, also those to the National Council of Women.

Discussion also took place on the proposed Entrance Examination for Probationers taking the State Examinations.

The President spoke on the forthcoming International Conference of Nurses to be held in July, 1937 and financial support was offered.

Miss Bickerton's report on the Meeting of the National Council of Women was referred to the Annual General Meeting as it was thought that many members who were unavoidably unable to be present would be interested to hear it, also a suggestion that Members not engaged in active work might be asked to join the local branches to follow up any business which might arise concerning the Nursing Profession.

The meeting was then terminated by the invitation of the President to all present to take tea with her.

THE LEAGUE OF SISTER TUTORS.

A delightful dinner was held on November 14th at Prompt's Restaurant, Rupert Street.

The League members were honoured by the presence of Miss I. Macdonald and Miss V. Cummings, both ladies being especially well known to the older Tutors.

The president, Miss H. Ballard, welcomed the guests, and after a few words on the League's activities, Miss Macdonald was asked to give a short talk on the International Council of Nurses and the coming Congress. This was a very interesting and appropriate subject, and the speaker was warmly thanked for her very interesting historical survey. Sister Tutors should be especially interested in the Congress and make a point of attending the session when their special work will be under discussion.

THE LEAGUE OF FEVER NURSES.

On Tuesday, November 24th, the League of Fever Nurses held its general meeting, by kind permission, in the Bedford Fenwick Hall at the British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, at 3 p.m.

The President, Miss W. P. Solomon, R.R.C., was in the chair, and there was a good attendance.

A very satisfactory Report was presented by the Secretary, Miss M. Drakard, which showed an increase in membership and general progress, and the members expressed their gratitude and thanks to the secretary for her untiring work on behalf of the Association.

Miss L. M. Mackie, who attended the annual meeting of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain as a delegate of the Association, gave a most illuminating report of this representative meeting held at the Headquarters of the National Council of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, W.1.

Among the most important subjects which came up for

discussion was the "Nursing of the Chronic Sick," and concerning this the meeting was unanimous in its opinion that to substitute an inferior grade of State Registered Nurse to nurse the chronic sick, must be opposed at all costs.

The meeting discussed and considered that a matter of some concern to all State Registered Nurses was that of interchangeability of pension schemes, between the voluntary and the various municipal and other bodies. It was agreed that with the present system, interchangeability of service took place at the candidate's loss, *i.e.*, her pension contribution paid towards a pension to the body she left lapsed, and added to this disadvantage was the loss of years in pension right when joining another body.

It was agreed to ask the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association to support the League's proposal to send a letter to the Minister of Health, requesting that reform in this sense be considered.

With a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, Miss Solomon, and to the secretary, Miss Drakard, for her invaluable services, the meeting then terminated.

A delicious tea was served in the secretary's office at 4 p.m., which was followed by a delightful lecture delivered by Mr. Livesay Fowler on "The Spaniards in Mexico."

At the conclusion of the lecture there was long applause. Miss A. S. Bryson, in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, expressed warm thanks on behalf of all present for his brilliant and inspiring lecture, in which they had listened to great historic events combined in an oration on courage.

The chairman said she felt sure that all present would wish to convey their warm thanks to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the President of the British College of Nurses, for the privilege of holding their general meeting in the beautiful quarters of the College, and to express their deep regret that owing to great pressure of work she was unable to accept their invitation to be present.

ST. MARY ABBOT'S HOSPITAL, KENSINGTON.**PRESENTATION OF PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES TO NURSES.**

At the conclusion of a Service held in the beautiful Chapel of St. Mary Abbot's Hospital on Friday, November 27th, a large gathering of colleagues and friends assembled at St. Mary Abbot's Hospital for the presentation of prizes and certificates to nurses, by Mr. D. N. Pritt, K.C., M.P. Prior to the prize-giving, visitors and friends had the privilege of inspecting the magnificent new theatre and suite, comprising operating room, surgeons' dressing and bath room, sisters' duty room, and staff nurses' dressing rooms, sterilising rooms and X-ray suite attached.

After this very interesting tour the presentation of prizes and certificates took place in the Nurses' Lecture Hall.

In the course of her speech in opening the proceedings, Mrs. F. A. Underwood, chairman of the Hospital Committee, considered the hospital was fortunate in its good friends, and alluded to the gifts of a beautiful picture now placed in the mortuary chapel, and of £100 received from a friend in appreciation of the care and attention given to a patient while in the hospital.

In expressing thanks to the officers, the chairman continued in a witty strain to say that she thought they all owed a great debt of gratitude to the Medical Superintendent, Mr. J. Carver, F.R.C.S., for his kindness, tact and efficient administration. She felt sure they all knew how much they owed to their Matron, Miss M. M. Ingman, F.B.C.N., and the women particularly knew how much a man depended on the support of a woman behind him,

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