

During the counting of the votes in an adjoining room the Council adjourned for tea.

The Result of the Ballot.

The President having resumed the Chair, the Scrutineers presented the result of the ballot, duly signed, which was declared from the Chair as follows:—

Miss E. E. P. MacManus	...	...	57 votes
Miss I. B. Clunas	...	...	40 votes
Miss H. McLoughlin	...	...	40 votes
Miss Elsie Ivett	...	...	38 votes
Miss Mabel Reynolds	...	...	8 votes
Mrs. M. C. Lediard	...	...	6 votes

As there was a tie between Miss Clunas and Miss McLoughlin, and as many members had left the Meeting it was impossible to hold another ballot, it was proposed by Miss C. H. McAra, seconded by Miss B. M. West, that the Chairman should have the casting vote.

The Chairman gave the casting vote to Miss McLoughlin, giving as her reason that she was influenced in so doing that she considered the large body of Fever Nurses should be represented on the Council, while the Municipal Nurses were already ably represented by Miss M. G. Allbutt.

The Chairman presented a bouquet to Miss McLoughlin, and, as Miss MacManus was not present, she presented a bouquet to Miss A. M. Bushby in recognition of all the work she had done in connection with the organisation of the Nursing Conference to be held next day.

Appointment of Auditor.

It was proposed by Miss E. F. Armstrong, seconded by Miss Mary Jones, O.B.E., and agreed, that Mr. H. Rendall Gothard, Chartered Accountant, be reappointed Auditor for the ensuing year.

Miss D. S. Coode, supported by Miss B. M. Monk, asked if the Special Committee in connection with the Amendments to the Constitution might be selected.

The Chairman ruled that it could not be done at that meeting as no such business was on the Agenda.

On the proposition of Miss E. M. Musson a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman.

The Meeting then terminated.

LETTERS OF THANKS — GUY'S HOSPITAL, LONDON, S.E.1.

Miss Emily E. P. MacManus, Matron of Guy's Hospital, writes to Miss Villiers:—

"Thank you for your letter of November 16th informing me that, as the result of the ballot held on Wednesday, November 9th, I was elected a Director of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

"Will you please convey to our President my pleasure in being elected. I shall do my best to assist the National Council in every way that I can."

COUNTY BOROUGH OF EAST HAM.

Public Health Department.

Infectious Diseases Hospital,
Roman Road,
East Ham, E.6.

DEAR PRESIDENT,—Having had the honour to be elected a Director of the National Council of Nurses through your kindness in giving me the casting vote, I wish to say how very pleased I am to have this opportunity of working under your very able leadership. It is also the wish of the Associations I represent that I should convey to you personally their gratitude for your kindly interest and help at all times.

Again thanking you.—Yours sincerely,

HELENA McLOUGHLIN.

THE NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

THE LEAGUE OF FEVER NURSES.

The League of Fever Nurses held a very successful General Meeting of Members at the British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, W.1, on Wednesday, November 16th.

Miss W. P. Solomon, R.R.C., was in the Chair. The Meeting was gratified to learn, that in connection with the suggested Minimum Scale of Salaries, drawn up jointly by the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association and League of Fever Nurses, this had been distributed throughout the country, and it was reported by a member that the Scale concerning Ward Sisters' salaries had been adopted by her Committee.

Miss J. T. Ruddy, Hon. Secretary, considered that the large number of untrained nurses employed as Private Nurses at the present time, undercutting the means and prestige of Registered Nurses, was a very serious menace to the Nursing Profession and the welfare of the public.

At the close of the Meeting tea for Members and friends was served, after which Miss Hilda Pocock, S.R.N., M.I.H., in a lecture entitled "Heredity and Citizenship" awakened the keenest interest in her audience, which at its conclusion, declared with enthusiasm their desire to acquire more knowledge on the subject of Eugénics which Miss Pocock had so ably introduced in her lecture, and which we publish here.

The Chairman proposed sincere thanks to the President of the British College of Nurses for the privilege of meeting at 39, Portland Place, W.1.

RESUME OF A LECTURE GIVEN TO THE LEAGUE OF FEVER NURSES.

By Miss Hilda Pocock, S.R.N.

Miss Pocock prefaced her lecture by saying that as a nurse she deplored the fact that the subject of Heredity was not included in the curriculum for the education of nurses, and that any observant nurse in the Outpatients' Department of a General Hospital would realise the remarkable resemblances, both physical and mental, between members of the same family, and that the diseases that they had to deal with often appeared in various members of the family.

The scientific laws of heredity were discovered by Gregor Mendel. Gregor Mendel was a monk who lived in Austria in the middle of the last century, and experimented with plants—peas and beans—and animals to try to find out if there was a law which governed the inheritance of various qualities like colour, shape, and so on.

After 20 years' study he sent his results to the most important scientific man in Austria at that time, but this man was at that time interested in Darwin's discoveries and put Mendel's letter in the Library in Vienna where it was lost sight of for 40 years. In 1900 some scientists were working in the Library and found Mendel's letter, translated it, and soon the knowledge of his work had spread all over the world.

In a very unbelieving frame of mind, scientists began to experiment on his lines, and found that their experiments confirmed Mendel's Law, which was then recognised as a discovery of great importance.

Since that time these Laws have been used in Experimental Farms and Agricultural Colleges which have produced the various types of plants and animals needed by man. But still the very farmers who use these laws did not realise that the same laws apply to human beings.

Miss Pocock then showed some charts illustrating Mendel's First Law. The production of a new colour in flowers, the transmission of hidden characteristics in animals—recessive white and dominant black colour in rats showing hybrid carriers. So to human pedigree in which red-green colour blindness was shown to be here-

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