

Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., was unanimously elected to the Chair and Colonel D. J. Mackintosh, C.B., M.V.O., LL.D., Vice-Chairman.

The first Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Friday, January 28th. Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., occupied the Chair. Apologies for absence were intimated from Miss Clark and Miss Jack.

#### Education and Examination Committee.

The Report of the Education and Examination Committee was submitted by Colonel D. J. Mackintosh, C.B., M.V.O., LL.D., the Convener of the Committee, and was approved.

It was recommended that Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, and St. Charles' Hospital, Ladbroke Grove, London, be temporarily recognised as Training Schools, to enable two candidates from these Hospitals to sit the Final Examination in General Nursing, and various other arrangements for the February Examinations were approved.

Reported that 16 Nurses who had attained the age of 21 had been placed on the Register.

The Training School Results for the year were considered.

#### Finance Committee.

The Report of the Finance Committee was submitted by Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., Convener of the Committee and was approved, and various accounts were passed for payment.

The Council approved the estimates for structural alterations, etc., in connection with the Council's new premises which have been recently acquired at 5, Darnaway Street, Edinburgh. It was reported that the present premises would be vacated by May 28th, 1938.

#### Date of next Meeting.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of Council should be held on February 25th.

#### LEGACIES TO NURSES.

Mr. Marsham a'Beckett McCarthy, F.R.C.S., late of Croydon, and late Captain, R.A.M.C., who died in St. Bartholomew's Hospital in November last, gave all his property (net personalty £8,375) to Helen Mary Adam, S.R.N., a sister in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, at present stationed at Malta.

Mr. Percy Ainley, late of Huddersfield, left £250 to Nurse Lal McMann, "as a slight acknowledgment of her kindness to me during my illness in 1922."

Mr. Frederick Stickland Lyddon, of Torquay, left £1,000 to Hilda Frances Elizabeth Lucy Payton, of Trinity Nursing Home, Torquay, "who nursed me during my illness."

The Hon. Lady Hurst of Breamore House, Breamore, left an annuity of £70 to Sister Annie McKell, of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

#### THE AMERICAN RED CROSS NURSING SERVICE NATIONAL MEMORIAL TO MISS CLARA NOYES, R.N.

At the Annual Meeting of the American Red Cross Nursing Service, held in Washington, in December, a resolution on the death of Miss Clara D. Noyes, R.N., late Director of Nursing, was adopted, and it was also decided to establish a Memorial in her name at Nurses House (Babylon, Long Island) which came into existence as a result of the great need to care for convalescent nurses returning from the Service in the A.E.F.

It was further resolved that the Nursing Committee of each district should assume the responsibility for developing plans to raise a sum of money for this purpose.

## THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The authorities at Guy's Hospital are unanimous that the present surgical block, which has only been slightly modified in 200 years, is totally unsuited to modern requirements, and the Hospital Board has instructed its architect to draw up a tentative scheme for rebuilding. This scheme has the approval of the majority of the Governors, but others do not approve because it means sweeping away most of what still remains of the original hospital.

The alternatives are:—

To demolish all the buildings—the surgical block and two wings added some 12 years after its erection—on the front quadrangle and build an entirely new block or

To demolish the surgical block, but retain the façade and erect a new building behind it as much in keeping as possible.

There is strong opposition to the first proposal. The second is regarded favourably, but would be difficult to carry out, since the area covered by the present block is considered insufficient.

The need for rebuilding is urgent, but until the authorities can see their way to raising the cost estimated at about £500,000 they can only say that the matter is under consideration.

University College Hospital has established a new department devoted entirely to treatment by X-ray. The need for reorganisation is the result of the increase in the number of treatments given annually during the past six years from 500 to 8,500, chiefly for cancer. Different illnesses require different apparatus for their treatment, and there are many diseases besides cancer, for example, diseases of the blood and of the eye, for which X-ray irradiation is suitable. Unfortunately the hospital no longer possesses an apparatus to treat these conditions, as the old one has worn out. It is therefore imperative to instal a new one, and the cost of this apparatus is estimated at £1,500. Welcome additions in the new department are the lounges and private cubicles for both private and hospital patients.

The cost of running the 75 hospitals for the sick maintained by the London County Council was £5,506,000 during the financial year ended March 31 last, an increase of nearly £250,000 on the previous year and of £1,465,000 on the year ended March 31, 1931, the first year the Council took them over. The annual L.C.C. report on public health finance, which gives these figures, states that during the last financial year £469,000 was contributed by patients or their relatives towards the cost of treatment. The average weekly cost of maintaining a patient continued to increase, the highest, that for an acute general hospital being £3 19s. 4d., or 1s. 9d. more than in the preceding 12 months.

London County Council have decided to limit the number of cases of infectious diseases admitted to their hospitals. The decision has been made necessary because of the difficulty of obtaining nurses in the numbers necessary to allow full use of the accommodation provided.

Already there are some diseases subject to the procedure limiting admission to severe cases. Now the arrangement will apply to scarlet fever, measles, and dysentery.

Could any decision have more disastrous results? We doubt it. Realise the terrible secondary results and permanent disablement of neglected cases of the three infectious diseases named.

We are glad to note that the Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint Committee may take appropriate action in the matter.

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