

THE NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council will be held at 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, on Saturday, April 9th, at 3.30 p.m. The President, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., will be in the Chair. Tea will be served after the meeting.

LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

The Hon. Secretary of the League writes:—

It is the desire of the League Members to have a Memorial to the late Miss Gertrude Anna Rogers, who was for thirty years Matron of the Leicester Royal Infirmary, the Founder of the Preliminary Training School, the first in the Provinces, and of the Nurses' League.

Will friends of Miss Rogers and Nurses desiring to contribute send a donation to the League Treasurer:

MISS E. MARRIOTT,
41, Springfield Road, Leicester."

An obituary notice of the late Miss Rogers appeared in this Journal in January last. She was an inspiring leader and an active member and organiser of the International and National Councils of Nurses. The profession owes such women perpetual veneration.

THE TRAINED NURSES' ASSOCIATION OF INDIA.

The *Nursing Journal of India* expresses the following appreciation of the services of Miss Abram during her residence in India:—

"It is with the deepest regret that we announce the resignation of Miss Abram, from the Matronship of the Presidency General Hospital, Calcutta, and the Presidency of the Trained Nurses' Association of India. Her name will go down in the Nursing History of India as that of a great leader and she will long be remembered for the work she has done for nursing in this country. She has made great sacrifices and has suffered much for the honour of our profession. The greatest debt of gratitude we can show her is to carry on her work and strive to reach her high standards.

"Miss Abram has been Matron of the Presidency General Hospital, Calcutta, for nine years, and has raised the Nursing Administration to a high standard of efficiency, she was also appointed President of the Committee to form the rules for the Bengal Nurses' Registration Act, which entailed much hard work and diplomacy.

"She will be very much missed, not only by her own Sisters and Nurses, but by all members of the Trained Nurses' Association of India, we have lost a great and sympathetic leader."

The 27th annual conference of the Trained Nurses' Association of India, which took place at Delhi in November, is reported in the February number of its official organ.

In speaking of the eight Nursing Registration Acts which were in force, Miss Hartley, the general secretary, referred to the need for better and more uniform Acts, and for greater nurse representation on the Councils. She stated that nursing progress was still severely handicapped by the fact that in many hospitals the Nursing Superintendents were not given full power of administration in nursing matters. She pointed out that this lowered their prestige, caused confusion and made it difficult to maintain order. In addition the training of the nurses suffered and the patients could not be so well cared for. In closing Miss Hartley said "We do not demand improvements out of selfishness, but work to promote them so that we may fulfil our ideals of service, to give the sick the tender care and nursing they need, to be the valued colleagues of the doctors and surgeons, to build a nursing profession of the highest standard, and, above all, to serve India."

THE INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS MATRONS' ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL DINNER.

Once again the members of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association met in pleasant fellowship at the Second Annual Dinner, held at the Florence Restaurant, on Saturday, February 26th.

The guests were received in the Quirinal Room by the President, Miss H. McLoughlin, M.B.C.N., Matron, the Infectious Diseases Hospital, East Ham, and the guests included Mrs. Bedford Fenwick; Dr. Malcolm Barker, Medical Officer of Health for East Ham, and Mrs. Barker; Dr. J. Landon, Medical Superintendent, East Ham Infectious Diseases Hospital; Dr. G. Harnett, Medical Superintendent, Barnet Isolation Hospital, and Mrs. Harnett; Dr. Fynans, visiting Medical Officer, West Ham Children's Hospital, Harold Wood; Mr. John Gerrard, ex-Secretary, Fever Nurses' Association, and Mrs. Gerrard.

When dinner was announced, Miss McLoughlin, who took the Chair, led the way with the Guest of Honour, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, who was seated on her right, and Dr. Malcolm Barker on her left. The company of 50 then took their seats.

During dinner, which was excellent, a string band played most pleasing popular airs.

THE TOASTS.

His Majesty the King—The Royal Family.

The first toast, "His Majesty the King," was proposed by the Chairman, Miss McLoughlin, to the strains of the National Anthem. She then proposed the second toast, "Her Majesty the Queen, Queen Mary and other Members of the Royal Family."

Our Guest of Honour.

On rising to the next toast, the Chairman said: "Ladies and Gentlemen, in proposing the toast to our Guest of Honour, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, I would just like to say how proud and honoured we are to have her with us, as everyone knows, she is the President and Founder of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and the Founder of the great International Council of Nurses, to which our Association has the honour to be affiliated." The toast was received with acclamation to the strains "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow."

The Chairman then called upon Miss Ruddy, M.B.C.N., Matron, High Grove Sanatorium, East Grinstead, to give the toast of the Guests, which she did in the following terms:

Our Guests and Visitors.

"Madam Chair, ladies and gentlemen, it is a privilege and a pleasure to me to propose the toast of 'Our Guests and Visitors.' To-night, we have with us our beloved Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. We will never know all we owe to her zeal and wonderful powers of organisation, as we look at the British College of Nurses, that child of her heart, we see, if only we open our eyes wide enough, a live, vital force, which we can use if we will because it is *ours* entirely, run by Nurses for Nurses with a living Register of Free Members. Mrs. Fenwick is a born leader, and to her we owe more than we realise. May she be spared for many years to come, to aid us by her wise counsel.

"Then we have also here this evening Miss Loughrin, of Bromley, who was awarded the M.B.E. in the recent Honours List.

"It is very good to have Dr. Malcolm Barker and his colleagues with us once again, and I hope they will make it a yearly occurrence and find it a tonic. It is a happy omen to see our Medical Superintendents not only sharing our work but our recreation.

"The more we pull together the happier will be our staffs and our patients.

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