clause referred to should not be reconsidered. This was seconded by Miss Stephenson and carried unanimously.

Miss Samsing (Australia) said that not being able to meet the requirements of the I.C.N. had been their stumbling block in Australia for many years, but not being able to affiliate without standing on their own feet had made them do it at last, and she thought it would be as well to let other countries wait till they managed their own professional affairs.

After an interesting discussion initiated by Miss Helgestad (Norway) it was agreed to suggest that the words, "non-sectarian and non-political" be inserted in the Preamble.

Co-operation, with Other International Organisations.

It was unanimously agreed that fusion with other International Associations was not advisable, but that the officers or Executive Secretary should be authorised to accept invitations to speak at International Meetings, or to be present at such meetings as they thought fit.

conducted in an orderly manner—namely, that they should be summoned in writing and their business recorded.

The Resolution was seconded by Dame Ellen Musson, who made suggestions for the practical application of the proposal.

The Executive Secretary agreed that the recommendation was possible.

The Resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

It is impossible in a short report to touch on the many interesting and important matters discussed at the recent meeting by the Board of Directors—Public Health Nursing, Private Sick Nursing—the Chairman (Miss Isabel Macdonald) presenting a very interesting report. The Florence Nightingale Foundation Work at Headquarters, Mental Nursing and Hygiene and Health Statistics, the organisation of the German Nurses' Association, arrangements in case of war, etc.; all of which goes to prove how invaluable it is for the nurses of the world to have their own Parliament in which to confer for the good of mankind in sickness and in health, and for sympathetic association in



Miss Effie J. Taylor, President (standing). Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, S.R.N., Founder (on her left).

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

RESOLUTION FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Executive Secretary read the following Resolution sent by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain:—

"That a by-law be framed providing that the Standing Committees of the International Council of Nurses be officially summoned in writing and that their proceedings be recorded."

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick said that as President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain she had been asked to present the Resolution. She referred to disorganisation at past meetings owing to lack of regulation for the conduct of business of the Standing Committees. In Paris, in 1933, the election of officers had to be called off because the summons was not in order, and the elections postponed until the names of nominees were officially presented.

In London, in 1937, the National Council of Great Britain had been disfranchised because the name of its nominee had been eliminated from the ballot paper. These unconstitutional irregularities would not have occurred if the business of the Standing Committees had been their own professional affairs for the general progress of what should be one of the finest careers for women in the world.

The President conducted the meeting with the utmost consideration for all concerned—for which service she was accorded a warm vote of thanks.

The clerical preparation of documents and almost magic with which the Minutes of Meetings were presented are deserving of the highest praise.

NATIONAL HOSPITALITY.

The social functions arranged in connection with the meetings of the Board of Directors have always been of great additional value in promoting understanding on international nursing problems.

It is not at business meetings that intimate contacts can be made or intimate understanding acquired, but rather in the social gatherings, where speech is free and unstudied, and sympathetic personalities are mutually attracted.

Thus during the recent meeting in London hospitality was of a generous nature.

Senior officers of the International Council were resident

previous page next page