

New Zealand Trained Nurses' Association

Central Council

Since our last report the four branches of the Association have been asked by the Central Council to consider several important matters, the chief one, perhaps, being the election of members. It is felt desirable that in order to promote the harmony, and also to uphold the high professional and social status of the Associations that newcomers to the Dominion should not be at once admitted to its ranks, unless personally known to members. Therefore the branches have been asked to consider a mode of election somewhat similar to those prevailing in other clubs and societies. State registration, while vouching for the training a nurse has received, and by placing her upon the register, giving her the opportunity of exercising her profession, cannot give any guarantee that she will be an acquisition as a member of a club such as our association is; some personal knowledge is required.

The rules have also been undergoing revision, and we hope shortly to have them complete and uniform for the four branches. The choice of some mark of membership, not a

badge, as the nurse members do not wish to supersede the registration badge, has been found difficult, and the decision of the Central Council at the meeting last year may yet be reconsidered. Fees have also been giving rise to much discussion.

At the time of the death of our late King Edward VII., the members of our Association wished to convey their sympathy to Queen Alexandra, and the president was requested to send a cable. The following cable was sent:—"The New Zealand Trained Nurses' Association offer deep sympathy to Queen Alexandra.—PRESIDENT."

The reply received next day was as follows:—"Queen Alexandra sincerely thanks you for kind sympathy in her sorrow." To President, 'Trained Nurses' Association, Wellington.

The President also wrote a letter to the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing," expressing the regret of the New Zealand Trained Nurses' Association at the sad news of the death of Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Wellington

The first lecture of the season was given on 27th April, by Dr. H. McLean. There was a very large attendance of nurses, and Dr. McLean's lecture on "Abortion" was much appreciated.

On 27th May, Dr. Collins lectured on "Typhoid," to over forty nurses, who listened with interest to a very long and instructive lecture.

At the close of the lecture, Miss Aitken, formerly a nurse at the Wellington Hospital, entertained the nurses by telling them of her experiences as a colonial nurse in London. Miss Aitken also gave a most interesting description of her work in Bournville, and showed some very fine photos of Cadbury's Factory, and the Village of Bournville.

Nurse France and Mrs. Crawford have been elected as members of Council.

The nurses' Annual Dance took place in Sydney Street Hall on 14th July. It was most successful, over 400 people attending, so that the room was rather crowded for dancing. The Hall was prettily decorated

with the nurses' colours—red and white—and the supper tables placed in the form of a cross, were decorated with red and white flowers. The President of the Wellington branch (Mrs. Gibbs) had been presented by the nurses with a lovely bouquet of scarlet and white flowers. The nurses were gratified by the presence of the Registrar of Nurses (Dr. Valentine). The President of the New Zealand Trained Nurses' Association (Miss Maclean) was also present, and Miss Payne, the Matron of Wellington Hospital, with about fifteen or sixteen of her nurses, many in uniform.

Mr. Hwang, the Chinese Consul, was kind enough to give a most interesting address on "The Medicine Man in China, and the gradual introduction of Chinese medical men and women from European and American schools." He described the mode of living, and diet, of the Chinese, and claimed that it was more natural and healthy than the European. There was a large audience of nurses, and Mr. Wang was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.