

New Zealand Trained Nurses' Association

Auckland Branch

Three Council meetings have been held this quarter—one on April 15th and one on May 6th, the last June 10th, at which the attendance of members was very good. Routine business was transacted, chiefly dealing with the new "Club," the building of which is going on satisfactorily. Tenders for electric lighting have been called.

Miss Jones, Hon. Sec. for Central Council, reported that she had collected the amount due for affiliation of the New Zealand branches to the International Council of Nurses which amount (30s. for each centre for three years) was to be forwarded to the Congress at San Francisco. Resignation of two members who are leaving with the Hospital Ship was received with regret. Several new nursing members have been received, and the Association numbers now about 230.

A meeting of the Trained Nurses' Association was held at the Club on May 27th to consider how best to help N.Z. Stationary Hospital No. 2. Mrs. Todd Smith presided over a numerous attendance. A letter

was read from the president, Mrs. Kidd, apologising, with much regret, for her unavoidable absence, and enclosing a cheque for two guineas, with expressions of sympathy for the object of the meeting.

A sum of £13 was collected at once, which has since been augmented, and it was decided that it should be used to purchase material for making useful and comfortable articles for the hospital. Many willing offers of help were forthcoming and all who wanted work were promised it. The result has been delightful—pneumonia jackets, bed socks, "toilet sets" (consisting of face cloth, toilet soap and tooth brush to each set), and many other useful articles. It was also decided to donate 500 draw sheets to the Hospital Ship, these not having been asked for, yet being indispensable. Time, energy and money are not being spared to make a successful result. Nurses are very busy with their work, yet very many are sparing hours to needle-work and knitting. Red Cross teas and knitting parties are a change from sports, and every one feels she is helping a great cause.

Otago Branch

Very little business has been before this Branch since last report. Council meetings have been held as usual for the transaction of local affairs, and a social general meeting held at St. Helens Hospital, in May, to welcome the new President, Dr. Wm. Brown.

On May 28th, an important general meeting was called to consider the proposals of the Hon. Mr. Rhodes for filling the vacancies on Hospital Staffs caused by the large number of nurses going to the front.

The following resolutions were passed and sent to the Minister in Charge of Hospitals:—

(1) That the Hospitals Department be asked to abrogate the time-limit of eight hours during war time as the (Dunedin) hospital nurses have volunteered to do longer duty if necessary.

(2) That a letter be sent to the Minister of Hospitals stating that in the event of necessity arising this Branch of the N.Z. T.N.A. agrees to his proposal subject to the condition that the term "Nurse" can be legally applied only to those who possess a State Registration Certificate.

Replies have since been received from the Minister thanking the nurses for their offer *re* longer hours, and promising to communicate with the Local Board on the subject, and with regard to the second resolution promising to safeguard the interests of trained nurses.

Dr. Falconer, of Dunedin Hospital attended this meeting and gave some account of the working of the St. John Red-Cross Society in England, also the Voluntary Aid Detachment.