

## Annual Meeting of the N.Z.T.N.A.

The seventh meeting of Central Council was held at the Nurses' Club, Mountain Road, Auckland, on October 1st, 1924, beginning at 10 a.m. Present: Mrs. Todd Smith (president); Mesdames Tracy Inglis, Kidd, Oliphant, and Miss Winter (Auckland); Misses Stott, McKenny, Kohn, Pengelly (Wellington); Miss Bicknell (deputy delegate, Canterbury); Mrs. Fraser (Otago); Miss Coles, and Miss Inglis, general honorary secretary (Hawke's Bay).

The minutes of the last Conference were read and confirmed.

### President's Address.

Fellow Members,—I have much pleasure in welcoming you all to Auckland. We hope that the weather will behave itself while you are here, and that the time of our conference together may be one of pleasure as well as profit to us all. We regret that more nurses do not avail themselves of the opportunity for meeting together and discussing the various questions we are so much interested in. You will remember that at the meeting of the Central Council last year a post-graduate course for nurses was discussed and decided upon, and we are glad to be able to state that this has been carried out during the present year. We can now congratulate ourselves that nursing in our Dominion has taken a step forward and the Diploma of Nursing is now an established fact. We are pleased, also, that one of our own nurses, Miss Janet Moore, has been selected to take a ten months' course of training at the Bedford College for Women, University of London. When Miss Moore returns she will be accepted as a teacher by the University of Otago, under the syllabus arranged in connection with the recently-instituted Diploma of Nursing. She will then instruct the tutor-sisters selected from the various public hospitals for post-graduate courses. It is good to have efficiency always, and we are pleased that our nurses are to have these advantages, especially tutor-nurses

or those who take any of the posts open to nurses under the Public Health Department; but we would like to draw attention to the fact that any amount of training in theory and scholarship will not necessarily make a good nurse. There must be practical knowledge, experience, patience, sympathy, and, above all, attention to detail. Who does not know the comfort of a clean, uncreased sheet and a pillow placed just in the right position? And I think we as members of the N.Z.T.N.A. should endeavour to impress this on our younger nurses.

We want nurses in the Dominion to have high ideals, to be loyal to the doctor, matron, and their fellow nurses, also never to forget the milk of human kindness, which is of such assistance in this world of trouble and sickness.

We are pleased that "Kai Tiaki" still continues to keep up its standard and is a most interesting and instructive journal for all nurses to subscribe to. We hope that the arrangement with Miss Maclean will prove satisfactory to both parties, and that she will long continue to edit this excellent paper.

The Bill for superannuation for nurses has not yet been passed. We fear there may be difficulties in the way, but we have the promise of the Minister for Health that it will be brought before the House this session. We can only keep on agitating until something is done. In the meantime the Nurses' Memorial Fund has done well. It is good to hear of the many nurses who have been assisted through its agency, and anything we can do to augment the amount should be done. If the Bill for the superannuation of nurses does not pass, we think at least Parliament should grant the subsidy on pensions paid out, which would help considerably.

In conclusion I may say that I have been pleased to hear that a Christian Union has been started among the nurses in the different hospitals, as it has always seemed to me that some help of this