

of young nurses would come to a better understanding of, and to love and honour their noble vocation. Such a celebration should be a national movement, not restricted to any one organisation. Perhaps an Oration might be delivered annually by a leader of Nursing Thought. She would delight to listen to Miss M. Adelaide Nutting, R.N., deliver such an Oration. The proposal was very warmly received by all members of the Council present, and the President then invited them to the Tenth Registration Birthday Tea, to light tapers, and taste the Birthday Cake which she had provided, an invitation accepted with acclamation.

#### Next Meeting of the Council.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Council should be held on Saturday, January 25th, at 2 p.m.

The Meeting then terminated.

#### FIXTURES FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.

*January 20th and 27th and February 3rd.*—Course of three lectures on the Ductless Glands, by Professor Mottram, M.A. 5.30 p.m.

*January 25th.*—Council Meeting. 2 p.m.

*February 4th.*—Debate "Should Nurses in Hospital live in or out?" 8 p.m.

*February 13th.*—Lecture by Sir Robert Armstrong Jones, C.B.E., F.R.C.P., on "Superstition." 8 p.m.

All the Lectures are free to Fellows and Members. Admission to non-members is.

Those wishing to attend Lectures are particularly requested to notify the Secretary, B.C.N., 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

#### CLASSES ON THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS.

By request the President will give instruction on the Conduct of Public Business at Meetings, and three Classes will be held in the Council Chamber of the College, early in March. It is specially requested that Fellows and Members who wish to attend will send in their names to the Secretary by March 1st, and be prepared to attend the three classes. The classes will be held at 5.30 p.m., which is considered the most convenient hour.

#### STATE REGISTRATION DAY.

##### DECEMBER 23rd, 1919—DECEMBER 23rd, 1929.

It was one of those happy inspirations of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the British College of Nurses, to commemorate the tenth Birthday of the signing of the "Act to Provide for the Registration of Nurses for the Sick." The Birthday Party could not take place on December 23rd, the date in 1919 when the three Nurses, Registration Bills received the Royal Assent, so it was decided it should be held at The British College of Nurses on Saturday, December 21st, after the meeting of the Council. Such a wonderful scene! The Secretary's Office was turned into a bower of Christmas decorations and a table laid in the centre with tea, and the most splendid iced Birthday Cake—surmounted with red roses; ten little pink candles nestling in pink roses on the cake, were waiting to be lighted. On the top was "State Registration Day, December 23rd, 1919."

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, lighted the first candle. Then followed the other Council Members; it was a wonderful moment, one thought, as one lighted a candle, of those who had never lived to see the fruit of their labours, and as one looked round the table it was marvellous

to think that the lady who had conceived this great benefit for Nurses and the world at large, was after 40 years of hard work to see the result of her labour. A very short speech—in which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick said it was only the beginning, as there would be a Registration Birthday Party with, she hoped, an Oration each year—then Mrs. Fenwick cut the cake, which was greatly appreciated by those present. Beautiful red crackers were pulled, and mementoes were collected to be placed in the History Section of The British College of Nurses. Great regret was expressed that Miss Brey who was still away at Brighton, was unable to be present. Large pieces of cake were packed up to be sent to absent friends, who had borne the burden and heat of the registration struggle. The party broke up by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Bright New Year, and so ended the Tenth Anniversary Birthday Party of the Registration Acts. ONE WHO WAS PRESENT.

#### SOUTHERN RHODESIAN MEDICAL BILL.

##### NURSE REPRESENTATION.

We congratulate Miss T. M. Rees, Matron-in-Chief of the Southern Rhodesian Nursing Service, and the Members of the Service that they have been sufficiently forceful to obtain direct nurse representation on the Southern Rhodesian Medical Council.

They were fortunate enough to secure the interest of Mr. G. M. Huggins, F.R.C.S., the Member for Salisbury North, who presented a motion in the House of Assembly—"That the Government take into consideration such amendment of the 'Medical, Dental and Pharmacy Act 1927,' as will enable trained nurses to have representation on the Medical Council."

This was agreed unanimously.

Amongst the demands of the Southern Rhodesian Nursing Service were:—

That a definite curriculum of training and examinations including a final practical examination, for probationer-nurses, should be laid down in the regulations. That a Nurses' Education Board be formed to deal with such matters, at least half of the members to be fully qualified nurses.

That General Trained Nurses should have a General Register, separate from (a) Certified Midwives, and (b) Mental Trained Nurses.

That if, and when, there comes a time when sufficient work justifies the commencement of a Midwifery Training School, no pupils be trained unless they are fully qualified nurses, having completed the full three years.

#### POOR LITTLE DARLINGS.

Poor little darlings! Every true nurse will realise, we allude to the seventy suffering children who lost their lives in the Paisley cinema panic, because the heart of every nurse in the land has been wrung in sorrow and sympathy over this appalling tragedy. We have the consolation of knowing that our colleagues who personally attended the dead and dying children, both at the Royal Alexandra Hospital and at the Infirmary, though shocked and grief-stricken, did their duty nobly, together with the medical staff. The terrible loss of life was no doubt largely the result of lack of adult supervision in the cinema, and we hope one lesson to be learnt from this terrible event will be that little children must be attended by adult persons in the future, when visiting public shows.

For the consolation of the parents, what can we offer? Very little we fear. Many of them will carry to the grave the horror and heartbreak of their bereavement.

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