FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

The Committee of Management of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation met on October 11th, at 15, Manchester Square, at 3.30 p.m. Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, the President, was in the Chair, and there was a good attendance of Members. As the Committee met last in June there was a long Agenda of business to be got through.

Amongst the communications was a letter from the Canadian Nurses’ Association enclosing a donation of £250 to the Endowment Fund, and one from the New Zealand Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee appointing Miss Rose Macdonald to represent it on the Grand Council.

A Report of the Second Ordinary General Meeting of the Grand Council held in London on July 2nd and 3rd last was received.

A new By-Law referred from the Grand Council was drafted.

The Propaganda Leaflet and Prospectus were revised and brought up to date for issue at an early date.

Reports were received from the House Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, the latter of which is considering the Budget for the coming year, and from which certain recommendations were considered and agreed.

The most interesting business was a verbal report from the Secretary, Miss Olive Baggallay, of the six weeks’ Study Tour made with Miss Goodrich to ten European Countries, July 12th to August 29th, made possible by financial support from the Rockefeller Foundation (which Report has now been circulated). Leaving London, visits were made to Geneva, Prague, Warsaw, Kaunas, Riga, Tartu, Helsinki, Stockholm, Oslo, Copenhagen, Brussels, and Paris. Information was sought in each country on the Present Position of Nursing Recruitment and Training, and on Fields of Work open to Trained Nurses. Other Fields of Work: the “Old International” Students and Their Work, and Possibilities for Future Co-operation. Training, Public Health Work, Midwifery, Social Work, etc. Many useful suggestions were made in connection with the International Courses, and we are pleased to note that one of the subjects suggested was a Course in Journalism.

Miss Baggallay considers the tour has been a stimulus to the various National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committees.

Miss Goodrich has demonstrated her close association with the interests of the Foundation and has given an impetus to the work in the countries visited.

Although in warm sympathy with the work of the Foundation none of the ten countries visited are at present in a position to raise more than a nominal sum towards the Endowment Fund.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, with the consent of the Committee, handed to Miss Dorsey (Warden of Florence Nightingale International House), the following valuable gifts, presented by Miss M. Adelaide Nutting, R.N., Hon. Vice-President of the Foundation:

1. Pamphlet by Florence Nightingale on Army Sanitary Reform under Lord Herbert, with inscription by herself.


3. Programme of Ceremony.

4. Programme of an Exhibit of some of the writings of Florence Nightingale, in the Teachers’ College, Columbia University, May 16th to June 1st, 1910.

The Committee of Management received the Gifts with much pleasure—and directed that its thanks should be conveyed to Miss M. Adelaide Nutting for her generosity.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held in January, 1936.

AT HOME.

The House Committee of Florence Nightingale International House were At Home in the evening of October 11th, to meet the International Students 1935-1936.

The stately House, admirably appointed, made a charming setting for this most interesting occasion. Managers, teachers and students, met together in happy community for the first time—Great Britain, the Dominions of New Zealand, Canada, and Australia, and India, Sweden, Switzerland, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Finland, the Philippine Islands, and the United States of America, were represented by students apparently as individual as they were charming, and commanded the sincere interest of those who in their various departments are in somewise responsible for their happiness and success. Time passes so quickly that we no sooner get to know one class of delightful people, than they are away, to be succeeded by another. All, however, like jewels in a chain, are strung together in international fellowship, with the clasp at 15, Manchester Square.

NIGHTINGALE BRICKS.

As reported elsewhere, the request of Miss E. Ruth Bridges, a Nightingale Student—Class 1935-1936—for a Nightingale Brick, was unanimously granted by the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses at its meeting on October 24th.

Miss Bridges attended at 38, Portland Place, on November 1st, when Mrs. Bedford Fenwick presented her with the Brick tied with the National Colours. The following inscription was attached:

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain:

This Brick
from
No. 10, South Street, London,
The Home of Florence Nightingale, O.M.,
from 1855—1910
Was Presented to
Miss E. Ruth Bridges, October 24th, 1935,
To be Incorporated in the Foundation Stone
of
The New Nurses’ Home
at
Invercargill, New Zealand.

Owing to several requests for these historic Bricks we learned that the house-breakers have now entirely demolished No. 10, South Street, and with great good fortune, through the courtesy of Mr. J. A. Mactaggart, we were just in time to procure a supply from the cart removing the very last load! For the future these souvenirs of Miss Nightingale will be sold for the benefit of the Florence Nightingale Thanksgiving Day, in support of the Memorial.