

The British College of Nurses, Ltd.

THE Eighth Ordinary General Meeting of the Fellows and Members of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., was held at 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, on December 9th, 1949.

The President, Miss Helena McLoughlin, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., was in the Chair.

The Chairman called upon the Hon. Secretary, Miss Stewart Bryson, to read the notice convening the meeting. This done, and Prayers having been read, the Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The following Eighth Annual Report of the Council and Balance Sheet for the year 1948-49, a copy of which had been circulated to every Fellow and Member, was taken as read and adopted:—

The Eighth Annual Report for the Year 1948-49.

In presenting the Audited Accounts for the year 1948-49 the Council reports a deficiency of income of £1,029, which amount is deducted from the surplus brought forward from the previous year of £17,190, leaving a balance of £16,161, to be carried forward.

The deficiency has been caused by the drop in the Trust Income from £4,794 in 1948 to £913 in 1949, in consequence of the nationalisation of the railways. The future Trust income will be £781 annually.

RETIRED MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

This year the Council will lose by rotation the very valuable services of Miss L. Clark and Miss G. M. Hardy, D.N. (Lond.), Fellows, whose keen professional outlook has been much valued.

NEW MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

The following nominations for election have been received, as Fellows: Mrs. Mabel C. Barber, D.N. (Lond.), and Miss Mabel Wakefield, S.R.N., R.M.P.A., Matron Bexley Mental Hospital, Kent, and as a Member, Miss Ada A. Ward, S.R.N., Matron, Neasden Hospital, London, N.W.10.

The experience of these ladies will, we feel sure, be invaluable in the deliberations of the Council.

The Council has continuously kept in active touch with members and has dealt effectively with all the business of the College with economy.

The clerical staff have attended daily throughout the year and performed their respective duties with admirable despatch, for which the Council desires to place on record its gratitude.

HONOUR TO A FAITHFUL FELLOW OF THE COLLEGE.

Miss Alice Reeves, R.R.C., F.B.C.N., late Matron, Dr. Stevens Hospital, Dublin, was awarded The Florence Nightingale Medal by the League of Red Cross Societies for her outstanding work for the Nursing Profession.

Miss Reeves is a Fellow of the British College of Nurses, and was appointed a Fellow on the First Council.

RE-OPENING OF THE COLLEGE

The ceremony of the re-opening of the College on October 1st, 1948, was an unmitigated success, when Sir Waldron Smithers, J.P., M.P., and Lady Smithers were the Guests of Honour and over a hundred Fellows, Members and friends were received by the President and Council.

CELEBRATION OF REGISTRATION DAY

The commemoration of Registration Day was held for the first time since the outbreak of the second World War, on December 10th, 1948. A short address by Miss A. Stewart Bryson on "Pioneer Days of State Registration, Those were the Days," preceded a most enjoyable tea. The ceremony of the Cutting of the Cake, by the President, Miss H. McLoughlin and Vice-President, Miss M. B. MacKellar, was witnessed by a large gathering of Fellows, Members and friends.

NURSING EDUCATION

Substantial educational grants have been awarded to enable Fellows and Members to attend the International Conference of Nurses held in Stockholm in June, 1949.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

The Council consider that cultural lectures other than those pertaining to the Nursing Profession would help to give our members an interest and wider outlook on other intellectual subjects.

Therefore, among our educational activities a Course of Lectures on Art was delivered at the College by Mr. Harold Brown, on (a) The Modern Art, on the basis of the work of Picasso; (b) Sculpture in the Making; and (c) Childrens' Art. The course was greatly appreciated by Fellows and Members and the attendance was large. Tea was served prior to the Lectures.

THE DR. BEDFORD FENWICK MEMORIAL

Under this Memorial Scheme the Council has decided to make arrangements for a scholar to attend the next International Council of Nurses Quadrennial Congress.

BENEVOLENT GRANTS

A sum of £409 has been distributed in grants to members of the College from the Ethel Mary Fletcher Benevolent Fund. These grants have been made to elderly members whose incomes have seriously depreciated owing to the increased high cost of living and ill-health. Thirteen members are now receiving a grant of 10s. weekly from the fund.

"THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING"

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING has kept the College in touch with Fellows and Members at home and abroad.

Since the passing of its Founder and first Editor, Ethel Gordon Fenwick, an Editorial Board has been formed on which the following ladies were appointed to serve: Miss H. McLoughlin, President, The British College of Nurses, Ltd. (*ex-officio*), Miss M. B. MacKellar, Miss L. Clark, Miss D. de M. Warren, D.N. (Lond.), Miss A. Stewart Bryson, Chairman, and Miss M. R. Angel, Secretary.

Fellows and Members will be gratified to know that the efforts of the members of the Editorial Board, and with the efficient services of the Secretary, have been rewarded by the steady progress of the Journal, which up-to-date has met its liabilities.

THE LENDING LIBRARY.

During the year many technical books of interest have been added to the Library. In the Isla Stewart Library, the unique collection of works of the lives of eminent nurses, not now procurable, may be studied at the College.

All books for which members have asked to be added to the library have been procured, and by request are available through the post or otherwise.

THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION

The Council hopes at an early date to continue its activities in this interesting section of the College.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

The College was well represented at the International Council of Nurses' Conference held in Stockholm, Sweden, from June 19th to 25th, 1949. The President, Miss H. McLoughlin, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., Miss M. B. MacKellar and Miss D. de M. Warren, D.N. (Lond.), Vice-Presidents, Miss L. Clark, Miss B. G. Sorlie and Miss U. Spon attended the Conference.

Arrangements were made for the Council Chamber of the College to be available for the Meetings of the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses from September 16th to 21st, 1948, and on September 20th it gave great pleasure to the President and Council of the College to entertain the members of the Board of Directors to tea.

A letter was received from the Executive Secretary, Miss Daisy C. Bridges, R.R.C., conveying resolutions of thanks and appreciation passed at the final meeting of the Board of Directors, and Miss Bridges herself for the arrangements made and for the use of an additional room.

We are happy to state that under the present conditions of having the International Council of Nurses under the roof of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., a most harmonious atmosphere prevails.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

It will be remembered that there was serious danger of the National Council of Nurses being absorbed by one of its constituent associations.

In our effort to prevent this catastrophe a letter pointing out this danger whereby one association would get complete control of the whole Nursing Profession, was sent from this College to the Presidents of every Affiliated Association of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. We received a letter of thanks from the then President of the National Council for our help for the successful issue of this campaign.

THE COLLEGE POLICY

The Council must bring the sound economic policy of the

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