

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The one hundred and seventh meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W., on Saturday, February 22nd, 1936, at 2.30 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and there were present: Miss M. Breay and Miss I. Macdonald, Vice-Presidents; Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss J. C. Cowie, Miss F. M. Campbell and Miss S. H. Vian, Fellows.

Prayers having been read by the Secretary, the Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

The Council standing, it was reported by the President, that in homage to His late Majesty King George V a beautiful chaplet of palm leaves and flowers had been sent to Windsor in time for the funeral, and also that expressions of respectful sympathy had been addressed to King Edward VIII and to Queen Mary. These Scrolls were engrossed by hand on vellum parchment, their main feature being the dignified lettering (based on Roman characters) in purple and black, and tied with purple ribbon.

### BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

The following letter of sympathy was sent from the President and Council to Miss Florence Annie Parkes:—

DEAR MADAM,—The Council of the British College of Nurses has learned with great pleasure of the recommendation of the Home Secretary to His late Majesty King George V, in regard to your case, which resulted in a free pardon being granted to you by His Majesty, proving your innocence of the offence for which you were convicted.

The President and Council unanimously expressed the desire that a message be sent to you from them conveying their deepest sympathy with you in all you must have suffered during the past 18 years.

I am,  
Yours sincerely,  
ALICE STEWART BRYSON,

Secretary.

To which Miss Parkes replied expressing "deep gratitude to the President and Council of the British College of Nurses for the beautiful letter of sympathy sent in my long sorrow of over 18 years. . . . I was deeply touched by it, and hope sometime to again thank you personally. I shall keep and value it immensely."

Miss Parkes in a long letter informed the Council of her present sad condition, and of her hope of being reinstated on the Central Midwives Board Roll; also of her appeal to the General Nursing Council to be registered, for which privilege she would have been eligible during the term of grace. The Council deeply sympathised with Miss Parkes' sad condition, and it was agreed to ask what provision the Government had made for her by way of compensation for wrongful conviction.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

Regrets for absence were received from Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., F.B.C.N., Miss H. G. Ballard, M.B.C.N., and Miss E. F. Eburah, M.B.C.N.

A very large number of communications were received, among them letters of thanks for congratulations sent from the Council on their success in passing the examination on the Course of Lectures on "First Aid in Chemical Warfare" from:—

(a) Miss W. P. Solomon.

(b) Miss F. M. Campbell.

(c) Miss I. G. Kitton, who also expressed thanks for the book procured for her during her studies, "Manual on Tuberculosis for Nurses," by E. Ashworth Underwood.

Letter from Miss E. L. Macaulay sending copies of the conditions under which the Certificate of the Kent County Mental Hospital are obtained, and the Hospital Certificate;

and stating that her Assistant Matron has been appointed Matron of the Dorset Mental Hospital, Herrison, Dorchester.

Letter of congratulation to be sent to Miss Macaulay that the Certificate of that Hospital is awarded to students on evidence that they have successfully passed the State Examination of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales in Mental Nursing.

The President expressed the opinion that difficulties had arisen in that hospital Certificates had been in some instances awarded after examination to nurses who had subsequently failed to pass the State Examination. Nurses greatly valued the Certificate of their training-schools, but their value was depreciated if awarded to unregistered nurses.

Letter from John Steepman, Esq., Assistant to the Director, National Portrait Gallery, W.C.2, that he will be pleased to arrange for a party (the Administration Class) to have three Lectures at the National Portrait Gallery on any subject selected from their syllabus.

Letter received from the Manager, Cunard White Star Line, Liverpool, in reply to enquiries, that the Nursing Sisters for the *Queen Mary* have already been appointed from among the members of the present staff, and owing to the reductions of sailings consequent upon the merger they do not anticipate making any new appointments at the present time.

Letter from Miss M. Mothershaw, F.B.C.N., Assistant Matron at Plaistow Hospital, notifying that she had been appointed Matron at Hendon Isolation Hospital, N.W.9.

It was agreed that a letter of congratulation be sent to Miss Mothershaw.

Letters from Mayor's Secretary, Walsall—

(a) Sending literature re Sister Dora's Birthday Celebrations and stating that the letter from the College suggesting small plaster statuettes be made of Sister Dora has been referred to the House Governor at the Walsall General Hospital.

(b) Sending for the College History Section four letters, one of which is from a niece of Sister Dora, Mrs. Anne de Sausmarez, expressing appreciation of civic recognition accorded on the anniversary of her aunt's (Sister Dora) birthday.

(c) Stating that he would like to hear that some able person had undertaken the task of writing a modern life of Sister Dora.

(d) Letter from Walter Francombe, Esq., House Governor, Walsall General Hospital, stating that with regard to Sister Dora's Birthday "he is very much interested in the suggestion, and your President would be doing an admirable thing if she could make such an arrangement." Will bring the matter before his Committee.

Letter from Miss S. E. Cowe again expressing thanks for Christmas Calendar Grant, which enabled her and her sister to have a most enjoyable time.

Letter from Miss Jessie Holmes expressing pleasure that she has received a beautiful letter from Her Majesty Queen Mary, and also sending cutting from *New York Times* concerning the funeral of King George V.

Letter from Miss M. Sim, St. John's, Newfoundland, sending £1 1s. for the Florence Nightingale Scholarships Fund as small contribution. Thanks for lovely Christmas Card.

Letter from Miss M. L. Taylor, F.B.C.N., Matron, General Hospital, St. John's, Newfoundland, stating that she received the King's Silver Jubilee Medal, and thanking for lovely Christmas Card. Letter congratulating Miss Taylor to be sent.

Letter from Captain Mary Layton, M.B.C.N., Salvation Army Hospital, Tinghsin, China, expressing appreciation of *B.J.N.* and thanks for "the very beautiful" Christmas Card, and that she is having it framed to hang with the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)