

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

A MEETING OF THE Grand Council of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, E.C.1, by the kind permission of the Governors and the Matron, Miss J. Loveridge, on November 26th, 1953.

The President, Miss L. G. Duff Grant, R.R.C., presided.

The morning session commenced at 11 a.m. and was entirely given up to a report of the meetings of the International Council of Nurses held in Brazil in July, 1953.

New Member Countries.

It was reported that Ceylon, Chile, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Northern Rhodesia, Pakistan, and Trinidad had been received into full membership of the International Council of Nurses.

Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, Yugoslavia and China had been forced to retire from the International Council of Nurses for an indefinite period because they were not in a position to pay their dues or have any contact with the other members in the I.C.N.

It was reported that there are now 36 countries in full membership and 18 associate members in the I.C.N.

Per Capita Contributions.

The question of the *per capita* contribution of 8d. being raised to 1s. 4d. for each individual in the I.C.N. caused a good deal of concern to the delegates present; it was noted that it would be extremely difficult for the small associations in the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Island to collect this extra money.

Meeting in Turkey in 1955.

It was reported that the Board of Directors, I.C.N., had been invited to hold their next meeting in Turkey in 1955.

The afternoon session commenced at 2 p.m., and there was a good attendance of delegates.

It was reported that the Poplar Hospital Nurses' League had been admitted to the National Council of Nurses, but that the Leagues of the Cardiff Royal Infirmary and the Canterbury Hospital had resigned.

The President's Address.

The President, in her address, told of the great honour she had received the day before by being commanded to visit Clarence House by the wish of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, to tell Her Majesty something of the Congress held in Brazil and other matters relating to the work of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Result of the Election.

It was reported that Dame Katherine Watt had been elected as Vice-President of the National Council of Nurses, and Lady Mann and Miss G. E. Davies as Directors.

In Memory of Florence Nightingale.

It was reported that arrangements for the observance of 100 years since Florence Nightingale went to the Crimea, were well in hand.

A service was being arranged to take place in St. Paul's Cathedral on May 12th, when the Bishop of London would conduct it; also that that day would be recognised in all hospitals as a Flag Day.

The Executive Secretary's Report.

Miss F. Rowe, the Executive Secretary gave us some idea of the growth of the work of the National Council, especially in regard to the exchange of nurses, and of the need to find alternative accommodation for the National Council of Nurses.

At the conclusion of the meeting a delicious tea was served, for which thanks to Miss Loveridge and the Board of Governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital were accorded.

A Cocktail Party.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland very much enjoyed the successful cocktail party on December 2nd, 1953, when they were privileged to meet Sir Geoffrey Thompson, K.C.M.G., and Lady Thompson in the new Nurses' Home, St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, by the generosity of the Hospital Board of Governors and Miss K. G. Douglas, the Matron.

The pleasure of this occasion was greatly enhanced by the privilege it afforded nurses in Great Britain to express appreciation of the great kindness extended to them at the International Congress of Nurses in Brazil, where Sir Geoffrey Thompson is Her Majesty's Ambassador at Rio de Janeiro, now on leave in this country.

Stepney Group Hospital Management.

Fancy Dress Dance.

THE ANNUAL FANCY DRESS DANCE given by the Stepney Group Hospital Management Committee to their Medical, Nursing and Administrative Staff in appreciation of the work done during the year, was held at St. George-in-the-East Hospital, on Wednesday, 28th October, 1953.

Sidney Lipton and his Ballroom Orchestra and the West End Cabaret given by Barry Manning's Champagn Girls assured the success of the evening.

The guests were received by Mrs. Hastings, Chairman, Mr. Burrell, Group Secretary and Miss R. E. Finch, Matron of St. George-in-the-East Hospital.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Stepney were present, and Mrs. Hastings and the Mayoress were presented with bouquets by Student Nurse Audrey Edge of St. George's, who was charmingly dressed in a lilac-coloured crinoline gown.

The Hall was gaily decorated with flowers and balloons.

There was terrific excitement when Miss Claire Bloom and Mr. Richard Burton arrived to judge the Fancy Dresses and to present the prizes.

Miss Claire Bloom was presented with a bouquet of pink carnations by Student Nurse Liliane Saoutchik who later won first prize as a ballerina.

All the fancy dresses were attractive and original but particular credit must go to the staff of St. George-in-the-East Hospital who were awarded all the prizes, except one, for their costumes.

The Dance was well attended by staff from all hospitals in the Group who very greatly appreciate the generosity of the Hospital Management Committee for giving them such a wonderful evening.

They were also delighted to welcome Miss Claire Bloom and Mr. Richard Burton who added so much to the enjoyment, not only by judging the Fancy Dresses but by remaining until the end and joining in the dancing.

Appreciation is also extended to all those at St. George-in-the-East Hospital for the organisation and catering arrangements.

Prizes for Fancy Dresses.

<i>Ballerina</i>	Student Nurse Liliane Saoutchik.
<i>Japanese Lady</i>	Student Nurse Loraine Reid.
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	Orderly Cassell.
<i>Penguin</i>	Sister Tickle.
<i>Spanish Peasant</i>	Sister Twomey.
<i>Indian Lady</i>	Student Nurse Marie Barrandon.
<i>"All Blacks"</i>	Staff Nurse Kathleen Bixley (London Jewish Hospital).
<i>Sultan and his Wife</i>	Student Nurse Lavina Jennings and Orderly Ennis.
<i>Matron's Nightmare</i>	Mr. W. Stevens (Adm. Staff) and Mr. Donald Hardman (Path. Lab. Staff).

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