

## The British College of Nurses, Ltd.

A MEETING OF THE Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., was held at 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, on Wednesday, November 11th, 1953, at 2.30 p.m.

Vice-President Miss Thurnham, F.B.C.N., was in the chair.

Prayers having been said, the Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Arrangements for Registration Day were agreed.

It was very much regretted that as Miss M. E. Thurnham had completed her term of office, the Council would lose her services as Vice-President.

It was unanimously agreed to appoint Miss A. R. Bunch, A.R.R.C., and Miss Mabel Wakefield as Vice-Presidents. The Council feel that these ladies, with their valuable professional experience, will be most welcome in the deliberations in the important work of the British College of Nurses, Ltd.

### Election of Fellows and Members.

Applications for membership were received and all were elected.

### Financial Statement.

The Financial Statement for the month was presented and adopted.

The attention of the meeting was drawn to the publication in the Press of the Coroner's Inquest which revealed the death of a child in the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital from asphyxia when recovering consciousness after operation while the student nurse had left the patient unattended for a few minutes.

The Council wished to place on record their opinion that after acknowledgment that the student nurse had disobeyed a strict rule with such tragic results, Sister Lena Greenhalgh's statement that she was a very good nurse, should have been modified to that of "up to the present time, etc."

### Lecture.

Mrs. Commissioner Helena Dibden of the International Headquarters of the Salvation Army, gave a most inspiring lecture on the work of the Salvation Army—their care of the babes from undesirable homes and the love bestowed upon them; their help, through their Mayflower Home in Plymouth, of educating young women to be better wives and mothers, and thus saving a large number of marriages; and their care for the elderly who can no longer look after themselves, who, we are told, are always treated as the "Guests" of the Salvation Army.

This talk, so feelingly given, moved Mrs. Commissioner Dibden's listeners very profoundly and we were so grateful to her for giving so freely of her precious time.

We have pleasure in publishing the following letter received from Mrs. Commissioner Dibden after the happy afternoon we were privileged to have her in our midst:—

"Dear Miss Bryson,

It was delightful to meet the members of the British College of Nurses yesterday. I was so pleased to meet you, I now feel that I know you, and when we have any further correspondence I shall be able to visualise you. I was also very pleased to meet your President.

What a delightful Headquarters you have. Every room seems to speak of refinement and peace and a love of the beautiful, but surely that is how it should be for nurses who devote their lives to the benefit of their fellow men.

Your members were most attentive and appreciative and it was a great pleasure and indeed a privilege for

me to come to talk to you about the work of The Salvation Army.

I will let you have The Salvation Army Year Book for 1954 as soon as it is published.

With warmest greetings to you and best wishes for the success of the worthy work you are doing.

May God have you in His keeping always.

Very sincerely yours,  
HELENA DIBDEN."

### The Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Wednesday, January 13th, 1954, at 2.30 p.m.

The meeting then terminated.

## The Gift Table.

The Council has decided to instal a gift table to which Fellows and Members might like to send, from time to time, of their handiwork or otherwise for sale to help towards College funds, and needless to say, such would be greatly appreciated.

## The Birthday Party.

THE CELEBRATION OF Registration Day, held at 19, Queen's Gate, London, on Wednesday, December 2nd, at 3.30 p.m. was this year especially delightful to Fellows and Members as they had the pleasure of the company of the Mayoress of the Royal Borough of Kensington, Mrs. Quinton Douglas, as the Guest of Honour and who was most warmly welcomed by Vice-President Miss M. E. Thurnham and Miss A. R. Bunch, A.R.R.C., in the members' club-room gay with flowers, where all foregathered to chat and where some of the History Section and Florence Nightingale relics could be seen to advantage.

At 4 o'clock the company passed into the Council Chamber where a delectable tea was served.

The Birthday Cake, an excellent piece of confectionery, resplendent in its decorative red ribbons and in letters of red inscribed, "State Registration of Nurses, 1919-1953, and surrounded by 34 candles—which were lighted by Miss Thurnham and Miss Bunch, A.R.R.C., who finally cut the cake, was duly handed round on the Barnett Memorial silver platter.

The programme included a short address delivered by Miss Bryson on the many-sided genius of the founder and first President of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., Ethel Gordon Fenwick—the leading Pioneer of State Registration of Nurses.

In her talk, Miss Bryson stressed how little it was realised how much she achieved for the benefit of the Nursing Profession over the years, apart from her great work for State Registration of Nurses.

Miss M. B. MacKellar, in a short speech, proposed a very warm vote of thanks to Mrs. Quinton Douglas in sparing valuable time to join the members on this occasion, and Miss Thurnham heartily seconded.

It was truly a Registration Celebration Day, which would have been after the Founder's own heart. Our delightful Guest of Honour, Mrs. Quinton Douglas, won the hearts of all the happy company in her charming interest and keen understanding of the College work—devoted to the teaching of our great Founder.

It was too a party relevant of the arts in the good fortune that among the guests we had the charming artist and sculptress of the Lady with the Lamp, Miss Knoblock.

As we heard the remark of one, "The best Registration Celebration Day ever," we heartily agreed!

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)