

## The British College of Nurses Ltd.

A MEETING OF THE Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., was held at 19, Queens Gate, London, S.W.7, on Monday, January 19th, 1953.

Mrs. Thomas Barber, D.N. (Lond.), was in the Chair.

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

On rising, the Chairman reported communications received from Fellows, Members and colleagues overseas, expressing warm appreciation of the season's greetings sent from the Council in the Royal Booklet, which included a charming letter from Miss L. L. Dock of Pennsylvania, a contemporary of Mrs. Fenwick in the early pioneer days and the first Hon. Secretary of the International Council of Nurses. We therefore feel sure it will greatly interest our colleagues to read:—  
 "My dear Miss Bryson, your most kind letter is more than I deserve. True, you cannot over-estimate my first, last, continuous admiration, esteem, and respectful love for Mrs. Fenwick from the first hour that I saw her in Johns Hopkins Hospital with Miss Hampton, I recognised a leader and a charming, beautiful woman.

"Those in the Nursing World who did not from the first acknowledge her leadership were just like our political group in governing bodies who have their own older and more conservative beliefs.

"I agree with you in what you say about degree mindedness, and here, too, there is almost too much of 'degree mindedness.'

"However, there are other currents also. . . . Do not praise me too much in your articles! If I were to relate my faults and failures you would be—I don't know what.

"We all think your young Queen is charming and her Mother and Grandmother also.

"Believe me always, sincerely your friend and staunch ally of our British nurses.

"Yours, with warm regards,  
 L. L. DOCK."

In further correspondence dealt with there came grateful thanks from some 22 elderly Fellows and Members for Christmas cheer sent from the Council; an expression of satisfaction for advice sought from the Council in professional difficulty; and, among many problems considered a satisfactory solution suggested in the urgent case of an elderly relative—gratefully acknowledged.

### Election of Fellows and Members.

Applications for membership of the College were received and all were elected.

### Draft Annual Report.

The Draft Annual Report was presented, read, considered and adopted.

### Gifts.

Received from Miss Jessie Holmes: autographed menu re nurses on board the s.s. *Letitia*, bound for the International Congress of Nurses, Montreal, July 3rd, 1929; also writing case presented to her by service patients in World War I.

The Council expressed warm thanks to Miss Holmes for these historic relics.

Miss M. Wakefield, Fellow—as the College representative—attended the Women's Economic Conference, held in Maidstone, on which she rendered an interesting report.

### The National Council of Women.

The Hon. Secretary of the College attended the Annual Conference of the National Council of Women, held at Eastbourne, November 4th to 6th, 1952, in place of the College delegate—Mrs. Thomas Barber, D.N. (Lond.)—who was unavoidably prevented. It was reported that the conference was very largely attended and of great interest.

The meeting then terminated.

### Lecture.

March 11th at 3.0 p.m.

"The Five Elizabeths."

A cordial welcome is extended to all Fellows, Members, and friends, and we hope a large number of our colleagues will make an effort to be present.

## The Passing Bell.

Mary Ann Harvey.

THERE PASSED TO HER REST on January 2nd, 1953, at the age of 86, Mary Ann Harvey who, upwards of 30 years ago, adorned the profession of nursing.

Trained at Charing Cross Hospital, London, 1896-1899, she received the Hospital Certificate and Medal; she also held the Certificate of the City of London Lying-in-Hospital, the London Obstetrical Society, and a Massage Certificate.



Miss Mary Ann Harvey.

In 1903, Miss Harvey joined the Registered Nurses' Society with the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick as Superintendent, and because of her elegant bearing was declared "Superba."

It was in the later years of her association with the Registered Nurses' Society that we met her, and were charmed by her distinguished yet friendly approach, which she retained all her life.

Her devotion to her patients knew no bounds, and she was frequently heard to compare the nurses of yesterday with those of today, not always, we must confess, to the advantage of the latter.

When she retired from nursing she gave more attention to her beloved embroidery, and her needlework pictures won prizes at Art Exhibitions. She made most of her own clothes, and until the end of her life she read widely and was interested in everything, and was a great lover of animals.

She died from a lung infection, and spent the last years of her life at Bognor Regis of which she was fond.

One more of the "old guard" has found eternal rest.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)