

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, October 12th, 1955, at 2.30 p.m.

Vice-President Miss A. R. Bunch was in the chair. Prayers having been read, the Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

In a considerable correspondence a letter was reported from Miss Mary Roberts, Emerita Editor of the *American Journal of Nursing*, expressing thanks for the copy of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, sent by request, containing the charming picture of Miss L. L. Dock, which had been received safely.

A letter of appreciation for the message of sympathy sent from the Council was reported from Mrs. Stephenson on the passing of her dear sister—Miss E. M. Trenaman, Fellow, S. Australia.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Miss A. A. Ward was nominated the College delegate to the National Council of Nurses.

Election of Fellows and Members.

Applications for membership were received and all were elected.

The Financial Statement was presented and adopted.

Christmas Party and Sale of Work.

It was agreed that the Christmas Party and Sale of Work be held on Wednesday, November 23rd; help, gifts in kind or in donations will be much appreciated.

Lectures.

It was decided that early in the New Year two Lectures will be delivered, entitled "My Six Wives," by H. L. Bryant Peers; and Miss Christine Smith on "Women Writers in the Nineteenth Century."

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was arranged for Wednesday, November 9th, at 2.30 p.m.

Book Reviews.

Materia Medica for Nurses.*

By W. Gordon Sears, M.D. (Lond.), M.R.C.P. (Lond.)

JUST PUBLISHED, we have before us the third edition of this very comprehensive work, completely revised since the issue of its second edition in 1948, and now quite up to date.

In this revised edition the book links up drugs and therapeutics with physiology.

The information given on every aspect for the nurses guidance, on the gravely important subject of drugs, exceeds their ordinary text books; taking the student through her examinations, and far beyond this period, as an invaluable book of reference.

That nurses should have a wider understanding of the importance of this subject—there is included in the Introduction:—

Interesting information on "Proprietary Preparations," "The Legal Control of Drugs," the "Poisons Act and Rules" and a chapter on Pharmaceutical Preparations. A fine section on Antibiotics has been re-written up to date.

The lucid unfolding of the very difficult work entailed in the understanding and administration of drugs is rendered intensely interesting throughout.

For his unique publications over the years Nurses owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Gordon Sears, especially so for

the latest third edition of "Materia Medica for Nurses"—a splendid work, of which its 276 pages are crammed with information on drugs and therapeutics. No nurses' book shelf should be complete without a copy.

A. S. B.

* Published by Edward Arnold (Publishers), Ltd., London. Price 9s. net.

Mayes' Handbook for Midwives.*

Fifth Edition by F. D. Thomas, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.

AFTER SIXTEEN YEARS, this is still one of the best handbooks for midwives.

In this fifth edition, in view of changes in the training, and alterations in the syllabus of the Central Midwives Board, the entire text has been brought up to date.

It includes recent advances in the practice of asphyxia neonatorum, Lovsetts manoeuvre for the delivery of shoulders in breech presentation; and the use of Trilene by midwives.

A good study book for pupil midwives and maternity nurses, and an invaluable help to teachers.

D. B.

* Published by Baillière Tindall & Cox, 7-8, Henrietta Street, London, W.C.2. Price 20s. net.

British Medical Books for Canada.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL in association with the medical group of the British Publishers' Association is sending an exhibition of about 480 medical books to tour Canadian universities from November to April. In recent years the Council has sent three exhibitions of university textbooks to tour Canada in this way but this is the first time that the exhibition has been entirely devoted to medical books.

The books which have been given for exhibition by the publishers cover most aspects of medicine from the historical to student, postgraduate and specialised work.

The subjects represented are: history and biography, bacteriology and parasitology, diseases of blood and circulatory system, endocrinology, materia medica, pharmacology and therapeutics, medical sciences, medicine, neurology and psychiatry, nurses' and students' aids, nursing, obstetrics and gynaecology, ophthalmology, paediatrics, pathology, public and industrial health and social sciences, surgery, tuberculosis, and other medical specialities.

Arrangements in Canada are being made by Dr. James J. Talman, Chief Librarian of the University of Western Ontario. The exhibition, which will be shown for a week at each university, will open on November 1st at the Medical Library, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Thereafter it will be shown at Laval University; the Osler Library, McGill University, Montreal; Montreal University; Ottawa University; Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario; Toronto University; the University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario; Manitoba University, Winnipeg; British Columbia University, Vancouver; Alberta University, Edmonton; and Saskatchewan University.

Britain to Help Malta.

IN RESPONSE TO AN urgent appeal from the Government of Malta the Minister of Health has welcomed the opportunity of helping the George Cross Island by agreeing that between 100 and 200 tuberculosis patients should be brought to England for hospital treatment.

These patients need hospital treatment on modern lines, which cannot be provided for them in Malta until a new sanatorium has been built there. Plans for this are now under discussion.

The Maltese Government will send over with the patients a few medical officers for training in tuberculosis work, a number of trained nurses and other staff. They will defray the expenses of treatment.

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