

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The Fourth Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held on October 23rd, at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., at 3 p.m. The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and the following Members of the Council were present:—Miss M. Breay and Miss H. L. Pearse, *Vice-Presidents*; Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss J. M. Cruickshank, R.R.C., Miss I. Macdonald, Mrs. Strong, Miss S. A. Villiers, *Fellows*; and Miss E. J. Haswell, *Member*.

Dr. Bedford Fenwick, Trustee and Treasurer of the College Fund, was present, and prayers having been read, announced that the Trustees had invited the following ladies to take seats upon the Council:—

MRS. LANCELOT ANDREWS, S.R.N., Cert. and Gold Medal, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, late Inspector under the Ministry of Health, and

MISS MARY SMALLWOOD COCHRANE, S.R.N., Cert. and Matron, Charing Cross Hospital, London.

These ladies, who had accepted the invitation of the Trustees, were present, and, having repeated the Solemn Obligation, and sworn to observe these promises, were admitted as Fellows of the College, signed its Roll, and were welcomed by Dr. Fenwick, in the name of the Trustees, on to the Council, and took their seats upon it.

Dr. Fenwick then addressed the Council as follows:—

Address by Dr. Bedford Fenwick, Trustee.

LADIES,—As I have previously told you, the Trust Deed of the first Endowment of this College, provided that, in order to bring the whole organisation into actual being and proper working, the Trustees should elect the first fifteen Fellows or Members, and from them select and appoint a President, two Vice-Presidents, and twelve members of the Council, for different terms of office; thereafter, confiding to the whole Council thus formed, the future management and control of the College; with the one proviso that all its financial affairs should be in the hands of a Finance Committee to be appointed by the Council, but with the Treasurer as its permanent Chairman, as representing the Trustees.

The Trustees have to-day completed their work in the above respect, and venture to believe that they have been successful in appointing a Council very representative of every interest in the Nursing Profession.

There are three matters to which the Trustees desire to draw your attention.

We should be glad if you will, as soon as possible, agree upon Bye-laws of the College, with its proposed Objects and Rules of working; of which we have submitted to you draft suggestions for consideration. When you have done so, these Bye-laws will be considered by the Trustees and their legal advisers; and when finally agreed, it is suggested that they should be brought before a General Meeting of the College for its approval.

In considering these Bye-laws, the Trustees would like your Council to bear in mind certain principles which we consider of great importance, as they are based on the experience of old and important bodies.

The Honoraria, paid quarterly, to the Officers and Council are estimated on the amounts paid to members of the General Medical Council, and are designed chiefly to cover your expenses in attending the Meetings. The Trustees have adopted this principle of payment, because they can see no reasonable justification for the very common belief that women alone should be expected to do public work entirely at their own expense. They will be paid from the income of the Trust Fund, which will also defray what may be regarded as the first Capital expenses of the College, viz., the Engraving of the College Seal and Diplomas, and the preliminary expenses of founding and starting its work. In this connection, I should add that the legal charges and Stamp Duties on the Trust Deed, amounting to £1,000, have been most generously paid by the anonymous Donor of the first Endowment.

Secondly, after these first Capital charges have been thus

paid, the Trustees would impress upon the Council their very earnest desire that as much as possible of the Endowment Income—which will probably amount to more than £5,000 a year—should be definitely set aside for the special object of the College in promoting the higher education of Nurses, and thereafter for the provision of special schemes of Insurance and Benevolent aid to those Fellows and Members of the College who are of *more than one year's standing*. This condition is considered essential, for it is the very last wish of the Trustees that any Nurse should join the College merely in order to obtain pecuniary assistance from it for herself. It is earnestly expected by the Trustees that Nurses will join the College for the improvement of Nursing—for the benefit of the public at large—for the



Lalayette

MISS MARY S. COCHRANE, F.B.C.N., S.R.N., R.R.C.,
Foundation Fellow of The British College of Nurses.

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