

an account of such receipts and expenditure, and of the whole property, credits and liabilities of the College, in the shape of a Balance Sheet, shall be audited by a Chartered Accountant and shall be presented to a General Meeting of the Fellows and Members of the College.

4. If upon the Winding-up or Dissolution of the College, there shall remain, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the Fellows and Members of the College, but shall be given or transferred to such other Institution or Institutions having objects similar to the objects of this College, as may be sanctioned by the Trustees and determined by a General Meeting of the Fellows and Members of the College, at or before the time of dissolution; or in default thereof by such Judge of the High Court of Justice as may have, or may acquire, jurisdiction in the matter.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COLLEGE.

The College was Founded and Endowed on April 29th, 1926, by an anonymous Donor with Investments of the value of £100,000, and by a Trust Deed, setting forth the purposes and objects of that Endowment.

It was especially provided that all Meetings of the College or its Council or Committees shall commence by the reading of Prayers drawn up for that purpose.

The College shall be composed of Fellows and Members who shall be Registered certificated women nurses. During the "Period of Grace" certificated women nurses who have been Registered on the General Part of the Register under the Nursing Act of 1919, or who have the right to reciprocal Registration, as approved by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, and who produce high credentials of professional and personal character may be elected by the Council as Foundation Fellows or Foundation Members of the College; and each Fellow and Member shall receive a Diploma of Fellowship or Membership in such form as the Council shall from time to time consider advisable. After the termination of the "Period of Grace" only those Registered Nurses who pass the respective examinations for ordinary Fellowship and Membership will be eligible to receive those Diplomas.

Every Fellow and Member shall take a Solemn Obligation in the following Form, and thereafter sign the said Form on the Roll of the College, before being admitted to Fellowship or Membership. In the case of Fellows or Members living abroad, or unable to come to London, the Obligation and Signature may be made, under Regulations passed for that purpose, before a Justice of the Peace or a Commissioner for Oaths.

Obligation.

I.....
in the presence of this Meeting of the Council of The British College of Nurses, do hereby solemnly and sincerely declare that I will always, as a Registered Nurse, fulfil to the best of my power and ability, and without any selfish consideration, every duty entrusted to me, in the nursing of the sick; that I will, in every way, loyally perform my professional duties to the medical practitioners under whose directions I shall work; that I will always regard as a sacred confidence, and will most strictly refrain from repeating or divulging to anyone, any private facts or personal information concerning my patients, their relations,

or their friends, which may be communicated to me, or which I may learn during, or in consequence of, my attendance upon them, whether in Hospitals, or their private homes, except only if such information be demanded from me as a witness in a Court of Justice; that, as a Fellow (or Member) of The British College of Nurses, I will faithfully and constantly obey all Rules and Regulations of the College which are now, or may hereafter be, in force; that I will, so far as may be in my power, assist any other Fellow or Member of the College who may ask for my help or advice; and finally, that I will constantly strive, both by my personal conduct and my professional work, to reflect credit on the Profession of Nursing, on The British College of Nurses, and on my fellow-members thereof. All these several promises I solemnly swear to observe, and I pray that I may ever be steadfast in fulfilling the whole of this Obligation of a Fellow (or a Member) of The British College of Nurses.

All applications for Fellowship or Membership shall be made on special Forms for that purpose; on the back of such Forms the above Obligation being printed.

The College shall be governed by a President, two Vice-Presidents and twelve Members of Council, and two or more Trustees of the Endowment Fund, one of whom shall be the Treasurer.

Future Trustees shall be appointed as vacancies occur, in accordance with the provisions of the Trustee Act, 1925.

The Trustees shall elect the first fifteen or more Fellows and Members, and, from them, shall appoint the first President, Vice-Presidents and Council, for such terms of office respectively, as they consider expedient. Thereafter, the President, who shall be a Fellow of the College, and shall have served as a Vice-President for the full term of office, or shall, if no past Vice-President be eligible, have served as a Member of the Council shall be elected by the Council at its meeting in July for such term of office as shall from time to time be decided by the Council, but not exceeding five years in all. The Vice-Presidents, who shall be Fellows of the College, shall, as vacancies occur, be elected by the Council at its meeting in July, from Fellows who have served as members of the Council, for a term of two years, so that one Vice-President shall retire each year, and shall not be eligible for re-appointment to that office. Nine members of Council shall be Fellows of the College, and shall be elected, by Postal Ballot, by the Fellows of the College, for a term of three years' office, under conditions defined in the Bye-Laws, but so that three shall retire each year, and not be eligible for re-appointment. If, at any time, the Council shall consider it advisable to reduce the number of Fellows on the Council from nine to six, such reduction may be made by a Resolution of the Council, if sanctioned by the Trustees; and shall continue until a further Resolution of the Council to again increase the number of Fellows on the Council to nine shall be passed by the Council. In the case of the above reduction in numbers being made, two Fellows shall retire each year; so that each Fellow shall serve on the Council for three years as above provided. Three members of Council shall be Members of the College, and shall be elected by Postal Ballot by the Members of the College for a term of three years' office, under conditions defined in the Bye-Laws; but so that one shall retire each year, and not be eligible for re-appointment.

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