

Isles—a demonstration of the very highest value. But, beyond this, Mrs. Breckinridge and her colleagues are carrying to women in isolated places, in the fastnesses of the Kentucky mountains, a service which means comfort, health, even life itself. The privilege of helping on the good work is alluring and fascinating to those possessed of the pioneer spirit. Undoubtedly there are hardships, and good health and good horsemanship are necessary parts of the nurses' equipment, but there is pure joy also, and we ask those of our readers who have the necessary qualifications to consider whether they do not wish to cast in their lot with the little community who are so bravely serving the Mothers and Babies in far Kentucky under Mrs. Breckinridge's leadership.

Miss M. Adelaide Nutting, M.A., writes in the I.C.N., the official organ of the International Council of Nurses, concerning the Endowment of Nursing Education:—

"There have been two notable advances in the education of nurses. These are, first, in the movement of nursing schools towards the university and second, in the beginnings of endowments for nursing education.

"The former began in 1899, when Teachers College, Columbia University, first admitted qualified graduate nurses, giving them some college credit for a certain proportion of their nursing training. A decade later the first school of nursing as part of the university system was established in the University of Minnesota, and this lead has been followed by about twenty-five other colleges and universities in this country, and by a few in other countries. Accompanying this development of relationships with universities, and in a sense the outcome of it, has been the bringing forth of the idea that financial support is necessary for the education of nurses, and the beginnings of endowments for that purpose. These are not only the highly important advances of recent years, but must be looked upon as real events in our educational history, likely to exert a profound influence upon the future of nursing. They mark a definite stage of evolution from one system to another, a stage which has been reached in part unconsciously, one of those groping efforts to make life better for their fellows, which are among the undying gleams of our guiding light.

"In the report of the Committee on Nursing Education, the work of these years and its results are interestingly summed up. It cannot be too strongly emphasised, it says, that the progress that has been undeniably made in nurses' training, has been made by the nurses themselves, practically without help and without thanks. If there is to-day any coherent, any integrated system of training to meet the insistent public demand for nurses, it is owing mainly to the patient, constructive efforts of the heads of training schools who have stood out against the needs of the moment in the interests of genuine instruction. It has been a progress made in the face of obstacles that would have daunted less resolute enthusiasts, in the face of indifference, of negligence, and of active opposition from those who should have been the first to encourage it. It has been a progress moving squarely against the vested interests of hospitals long in control of the destinies of nursing education."

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

The Sixteenth meeting of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, November 26th, at 3 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and the following members were present: Miss M. Breay, and Miss H. L. Pearse, Vice-Presidents; Miss Mary G. Allbutt, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss D. K. Graham, Miss I. Macdonald, Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Miss S. A. Villiers, Fellows, and Miss E. J. Haswell, Member.

Prayers having been read by the Secretary the minutes were confirmed.

General Business. Correspondence.

1. From Mr. Shaw's workmen, sending thanks for gratuities from Members of Council.

2. From Miss Pearl Morrison, Canada, *re* arrangement for administrative work in London—the Council is interesting itself in the matter.

3. From Miss M. S. Riddell, acknowledging letter, advising that it would be placed before "my Committee" in due course.

4. From nurses ineligible for membership as they were not State registered. The Council deeply sympathised with the writers and advised them to sit for the State Examination.

5. From Miss Haslam *re* participation of country members in activities and benefits of College. The Council agreed to the suggestion of the President that County Local Consuls be appointed, to associate together and keep in touch with local Fellows and Members.

6. From Miss Hawkins, Detroit, U.S.A., *re* a post-graduate course.

7. Copy of letter from Mr. A. Locke, Home Office, Whitehall, to the General Nursing Council, stating that the Secretary of State for the Home Department had decided that evidence as to cause of death is to be sought from a legally qualified medical practitioner, and not from a nurse. This important decision arose on a letter to the Home Secretary from the Matron of the Wrexham and War Memorial Hospital. It was agreed to send an expression of thanks to this lady for her service to the nursing profession in this particular.

8. Communication from the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene *re* "Tolerated Brothels within the British Empire," enclosing literature on the subject. The President advised, as it was a far-reaching question of physical fighting, that Members of Council should consider it individually.

Salaries for Health Nurses.

The following letter received from Miss G. Le Geyt, F.B.C.N., was considered by the Council:—

"As a delegate on the London Society for Women's Service I have been requested and undertook to convey to you the opinion of the majority of the Societies affiliated, that Professional Journals should decline to advertise any appointments in the Public Health Services where the salary offered is less than £200 per annum for non-residential posts. Admittedly, I have not seen any advertisements under £200 in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, but we know it would strengthen our position and improve our status if the official organ of the British College of Nurses

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)