

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

The Seventh Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1, on Saturday, January 29th, 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, and Councillors Miss G. Allbutt, Mrs. Lancelot Andrews, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss I. Macdonald, Miss E. L. Macaulay, R.R.C., O.B.E., Miss S. A. Villiers, Fellows, and Miss E. J. Haswell.

Letters were received from Mrs. Strong, and from Miss Reeves, R.R.C., and Miss Graham notifying their inability to attend from illness.

Prayers having been read, the Minutes of the last Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

The President placed before the Council the resignation of Miss J. M. Cruickshank, R.R.C., as a Member of the Council, which was received with very sincere regret, her colleagues sympathising with her reasons for so doing, and it was agreed that a letter be sent to Miss Cruickshank expressing the loss sustained by her resignation.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

A number of letters were read and considered.

## THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL.

The following letter, which had been sent by direction of the Council to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, was read:—

British College of Nurses,  
431, Oxford Street, W. 1.  
January 14th, 1927.

MADAM,—I am instructed to acknowledge your letter of December 17th, 1926, forwarding a copy of a Resolution passed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales at its Meeting that day, which was read at the Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses on December 18th.

Members of the Council present strongly objected to being classed with a thief in the Register of Nurses published under the authority of the General Nursing Council, and as the Resolution contained no reply to the question to which the Council of the British College of Nurses invited an answer, *i.e.*, what steps the General Nursing Council intends to take to remove the name of Elizabeth Shand (No. 39279) from that Register, I was directed to draw the attention of the General Nursing Council to this fact, and to ask for a reply.

The Council, further, took strong exception to the principle of privacy pursued by the General Nursing Council, and maintained the right of publicity in connection with penal cases—as established by precedent by the General Medical Council and the Central Midwives' Board—in the interest both of the public and of the accused nurse.

It was of opinion that nothing could be more dangerous to an accused nurse than that the case against her should be decided *in camera*.

I am, Madam,  
Yours faithfully,  
MARGARET BREAY,  
*Hon. Secretary (pro tem.).*

To The Registrar,  
General Nursing Council for England and Wales,  
20, Portland Place, W. 1.

The General Nursing Council for England and Wales,  
20, Portland Place,  
London, W. 1.

January 15th, 1927.

DEAR MADAM,—I have to acknowledge your letter of January 14th, which I shall put before the Chairman of Council.

Yours faithfully,  
M. S. RIDDELL,  
*Registrar.*

Miss M. Breay, *Hon. Secretary*,  
The British College of Nurses,  
431, Oxford Street, W. 1.

The President reported that at the Meeting of the G.N.C., held on January 21st, the letter from the B.C.N. "was laid on the table." This discourtesy was proposed by Sir Jenner Verrall, and seconded by Dr. Goodall, and agreed, Miss Bushby being the only Member of the Council to vote against this autocratic disregard of Nursing Opinion.

It was agreed to send copies of the whole correspondence between the College and the G.N.C. to the Minister of Health, to the Privy Council, and to the Board of Education—the three Government Departments responsible for nominating members on to the General Nursing Council.

## ELECTION OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

Applications for Fellowship and Membership were considered, and action taken thereon.

## THE DIPLOMA.

Specimens of the Diploma on Japanese vellum were before the Council, and the shade of paper was selected.

It was agreed that Diploma Day should be held in April, and the arrangements would appear in the next issue of this JOURNAL.

## ROBES FOR FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

As certain Fellows and Members had expressed the wish for Robes—especially those engaged in Lecturing—patterns were before the Council, and a Robe to be made of black Princetta with narrow facings of Petunia satin, for Fellows and the same Robe with tabs of Petunia for Members, were chosen. It was also agreed that a pattern of hats suitable to wear with the gowns should be obtained. The Secretary to obtain estimates of cost.

## COUNSEL'S OPINION TO BE TAKEN ON BEHALF OF A FELLOW.

The President placed before the Council the circumstances under which a Fellow of the College contracted an illness while in attendance upon a patient, by which she had been incapacitated from earning her living for many weeks. It was agreed to take Counsel's opinion as to the possibility of obtaining compensation for the Fellow concerned.

## REPORT FROM THE CONJOINT COMMITTEE IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANT OF A ROYAL CHARTER TO THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

A Report was received from the Joint Committee in opposition to the grant of a Royal Charter to the College of Nursing, Ltd.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)