

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

The Second Annual Meeting of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, W., on Wednesday, July 11th. This was the first occasion on which the Fellows and Members met in their own Headquarters, and expressions of pleasure at the beauty of the house, its decorations, and equipment were heard on all sides.

The Entrance Halls with their fine proportions, French-grey colouring, and black and white marble tiled floors were an ideal setting for the cool green ferns, rambler roses, pink daisies, and hydrangeas, which had been arranged by a Fellow with the eyes and hands of an artist, as a gift to the profession and the College which she loves, the prestige of which she has done so much to uphold. To the right the Council Chamber was fragrant with crimson roses and carnations, in harmonious combination with its yellow walls, and the Secretary's Office, in which tea was served, was sweet and lovely with roses and sweet peas, the gift of Miss A. M. Bushby, a member of the Council, who had helped to arrange them most charmingly.

In the Members' Club Room pink spirea, sweet peas and hydrangeas were an ideal decoration in combination with the delicate "hedge-sparrow" blue walls and tiles, and the silver stove, and on the first floor the fine Lecture Halls were beautified with a wealth of roses and tall ferns. The Study, always a soul-satisfying room, with its grey walls, beautiful Chippendale furniture, the fine mahogany screen with crimson panels, and on the mantelpiece valuable Derby porcelain, the gift of a Fellow, had received the added touch which spelt perfection in the carnations which stood on the centre table and elsewhere. Here a life-like portrait of the late Miss Isla Stewart made her presence felt.

Indeed, wherever one turned was a feast of colour; roses, carnations, and gladioli, till at the top of the house, on the floor where the activities of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING are concentrated, and where in its Recording Office bound and unbound files of the 75 volumes from 1888 to the present time are housed, the visitors came unexpectedly on the little roof-garden, bright with crimson geraniums, sweet peas, pansies, and other growing things, which opens on to the trim kitchen, cool-looking and dainty with its blue and white walls, white furniture, and dresser well filled with Luneville pottery.

When the meeting opened at three o'clock, the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the chair, in her robes of office, supported by Dr. Bedford Fenwick, Treasurer and Trustee. In the front row of chairs the Officers and Councillors were seated in their robes, and in the body of the hall were between 70 and 80 Fellows and Members.

Prayers having been read by the Secretary, Miss G. R. Hale, R.R.C., the President called upon her to read the notice convening the meeting, the minutes, and the Second Annual Report of the Council (abridged), which showed that much progress had been made in all the branches of the work of the College since the last Annual Meeting. We print the Report *in extenso* below.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL AND THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR 1927-1928.

In presenting the Second Annual Report of the British College of Nurses to its Annual Meeting, the Council is glad to congratulate the Fellows and Members on the steady progress which has been made in consolidating its work during the past year.

Meetings.

During the year the Council has met eleven times and transacted a large amount of business. The Education

Committee has met ten times, the Finance Committee three times.

Retiring Members of Council.

This year we lose from the Council Miss Helen L. Pearse, Vice-President, and Mrs. Strong and Miss Macaulay, Councillors, for whose work their colleagues on the Council desire in the name of the College to express their thanks and appreciation.

Scottish together with English Nurses will regret that Mrs. Strong's term of office has now concluded. Miss Macaulay's expert advice on the question of Mental Nursing has been specially valuable to the Council in the inaugural stages of its work.

Membership.

The Membership of the College has steadily increased, and since July, 1927, the Council have elected Fellows and Members.

Amendment to the Constitution.

The Trustees, in accordance with powers provided for in the Bye-Laws, have agreed to the unanimous recommendation of the Council that the number of Fellows on the Council shall be reduced from nine to six, and that "such reduction shall continue until the Council, by a unanimous vote, resolves that the number of Fellows should be increased to nine."

As this leaves a full complement of Fellows on the Council, there will be no election of Fellows until 1929, when two vacancies will occur in July, and those elected will serve for three years. One new Member will be elected annually and serve for three years.

New Member of Council.

The only vacancy this year was for one Member, and as only one nomination was received by the date notified, that of Miss Kathleen Mary Latham, R.R.C., there was no ballot necessary, and Miss Latham's nomination was confirmed by the Council at its Meeting on June 23rd.

Local Consuls.

Local Consuls have been appointed in various counties for the help and advice of Fellows and Members, and to form centres where Lectures, Conferences, and Social Functions can be held.

Affiliation with the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

On November 22nd, 1927, the application of the British College of Nurses for affiliation with the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was approved, thus bringing the College into relationship with other professionally organised Societies of Nurses federated in this self-governing National Association of some 30,000 trained nurses. Through this National Council it enters also into communication with the Nurses of the world affiliated through their national organisations in the International Council of Nurses.

The Annual Dinner.

The Annual Dinner instituted last year, and held at the Hotel Metropole, was an unqualified success. The President was in the Chair and the College entertained leading Members of the Medical Profession and of the Health Services, and women eminent in Art and Literature.

The College Badge.

In accordance with the desire expressed by Fellows and Members, the Council of the College has had under consideration various designs for a College Badge, and hopes that such a badge will shortly be procurable.

The College Diplomas.

Much pleasure has been expressed by Fellows and Members, at home and Overseas, on receiving the College

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