

will be from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight, with the Belgravia Orchestra in attendance, and evening or fancy dress is optional.

Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Miss A. Cattell, 1, Treborough House, Great Woodstock Street, Marylebone, W., the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Northwood, 6, Nottingham Place, W., and others. The Master of the Ceremonies is Mr. A. E. Tutt.

A very enjoyable evening is anticipated and, with tickets so moderate in price, there is sure to be a great demand for them so, that it will be well to secure them at an early date.

The Fifth Annual Report of the Directors of the United Nursing Services Club, Ltd., of 34, Cavendish Square, London, W., must be very gratifying to the shareholders and to the Secretary, Miss M. F. Steele, F.B.C.N., whose whole-hearted energy in promoting its interests has contributed so much to its success.

The Directors, who with the Report present the Balance Sheet and Accounts, with the Auditor's Report attached thereto, announced that it is with much pleasure they are able again to report that the year's working has resulted in a profit, as shown by the accounts, of £180 18s. 1d., after meeting expenditure for renewals and repairs to the Club House and property. The amount of the debit balance on Profit and Loss Account has now been wiped off, and there is a credit balance. The membership of the Club has increased from 1,155 to 1,191 and the subscriptions from £1,793 13s. 3d. to £1,893 1s. 0d. The Directors feel that the year's working is very satisfactory, and that the future prospects of the Club are most hopeful.

We may add that the Club is most centrally situated, within a few minutes walk of Oxford Circus, and no pains are spared to ensure the comfort of the members.

The British Legion is organising a large Battlefields Tour for ex-Service men and women to take place from August 5th to 8th, 1928. The cost of the trip will be £4 5s., including rail, etc., travelling, accommodation and food.

Retired members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and members of Q.A.I.M.N.S. Reserve wishing to join the tour should apply early to:— The Principal Matron, Q.A.I.M.N.S., The War Office, London, S.W.1, marking the envelope *British Legion Tour*.

A point of good nursing when nerves and senses are irritated and sharpened by illness is to surround the patient with a quiet atmosphere, and we sympathise with a sick man in the Hackney Hospital, whose daughter informed the Coroner at an inquest which recently took place, that her father described a loud speaker in the ward as "hell." He also complained of the "frightful draught" in the hospital.

We are of opinion that ear phones are more suitable than loud speakers in hospital wards, and adequate ventilation should be secured without draught. The Coroner, Mr. Edwin Smith, said that people who were not used to fresh air suffered when placed in a hospital ward. Whether the fresh air scheme was overdone was a point which might be considered.

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

The Seventeenth Meeting of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, December 31st, 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 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. Mrs. Strong and Miss Cochrane sent regrets at inability to attend.

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

The President said before entering upon the business on the Agenda she felt sure all present would wish to offer hearty congratulations to Miss Bushby and Miss Villiers on being elected members of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, the more so, as both ladies had stood upon an independent ticket (Miss Villiers unopposed) and had been chosen upon their own merits without any organised pressure whatever behind them to force their election.

The Council heartily congratulated them, and had confidence that the ethical and educational standards it had so greatly at heart were safe in their keeping.

Miss Bushby and Miss Villiers expressed thanks. A vote of thanks was unanimously adopted to Miss C. du Sautoy, and to Miss Alice Cattell and Miss E. E. Fowler for accepting nomination as certificated Nurses in the interests of private patients and the educational standard of private Nurses whose status and qualifications had on the General Nursing Council been so contemptuously depreciated. The Secretary was asked to forward these votes of thanks to the three Fellows of the B.C.N.

### Correspondence.

A very large number of interesting letters were considered.

1. From the Prison Commission.

2. From the Ministry of Health acknowledging copy of Resolution in support of the opinions of the General Nursing Council on the training of Nurses in small infectious hospitals, and informing it that the Minister, Mr. Neville Chamberlain, had informed the General Nursing Council "that he could not undertake to discuss with them a decision given in his judicial capacity."

This decision, in the opinion of the Council, deprives the G.N.C. of its statutory right to define practical standards of nursing education and efficiency for registration of Fever Nurses.

### The Examination and Registration of Mental Nurses.

3. In reply to a letter addressed to the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association, the Hon. Secretary replied that the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association had unanimously decided at a recent meeting to support the General Nursing Council and to encourage Mental Nurses to enter for the State Examination.

It will be remembered that Professor George Robertson of Edinburgh, and some of his medical colleagues were attempting to substitute the examination of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association to qualify for State

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)