

"The Life of Sir James Paget."—From Miss G. Vergette.

#### Obligation Day.

Tuesday, January 17th, was fixed for Obligation Day, 2.30 to 5 p.m.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Saturday, January 28th, at 3 p.m. The Meeting then terminated.

#### Fixtures for January.

AT 39, PORTLAND PLACE, LONDON, W.1.

January 17th. Obligation Day. 2.30—5 p.m.

January 24th. Lecture on the History of Nursing, by Miss Isabel Macdonald, F.B.C.N., illustrated by Lantern Slides. 5.30 p.m. Free to Fellows and Members. Charge to non-Members, one shilling.

January 28th.—Council Meeting, 3 p.m.

Those wishing to attend Miss Macdonald's Lecture on January 24th are particularly requested to notify the Secretary of the College beforehand, so that the necessary arrangements may be made.

Those hoping to attend on January 17th, to take the Obligation, and sign the College Roll, are also requested to notify the Secretary beforehand.

#### Fixtures for February.

February 14th and following Tuesdays. 7.30 p.m.

We have much pleasure in announcing that the Council of the College has arranged for a course of ten Lectures on Psychology at 39, Portland Place, by Dr. Forsythe, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M. (Diploma in Psychological Medicine), University of Sheffield, of the Kent County Mental Hospital. The fee for the course will be 15s. for Fellows and Members and 25s. for non-members, payable in advance.

At the end of the course there will be a written examination and a Certificate of Proficiency will be given to those who pass the prescribed standard.

#### ELEMENTARY PSYCHOLOGY AND ITS APPLICATION TO NURSING.

##### Syllabus of Course.

Psychology as a Science. Methods of Study. The scope of the subject and its special value to the Nurse.

Behaviour, from an evolutionary standpoint. Animal and human:—(1) Tropism; (2) Reflexes; (3) Instinct; (4) Intelligence. The superiority of man.

The Normal Mind.

The three-fold nature of mental processes.

The Instincts (in detail). Illustrations.

Thought, Reasoning, Judgment.

Attention. Interest. Fatigue. Mental economy, and mental hygiene. Sensation. Feeling. Emotion. Disposition. Temperament. Mood, Character.

The Sentiments.

Habit. Behaviour. Conduct.

Imagination and Ideas.

Language and Reasoning.

Perception. Apperception. Illusion. Hallucination.

Delusion. Consciousness. The Subconscious. The Unconscious. Dreams.

Memory and its disorders.

Early signs of mental illness.

Psychogenic mechanisms of mental illness:—(1) Conflict; (2) Complexes; (3) Repression; (4) Sublimation; (5) Dissociation; (6) Projection, etc.

Persuasion and suggestion as methods of treatment.

Experimental methods.

Estimation of Intelligence. Methods of dealing with patients of various grades of intelligence.

#### THE FIRST LECTURE AT THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the President, who delivered the First Lecture at the British College of Nurses, on "The Procedure of Public Business" on Tuesday, October 11th, in the Large Hall; an enthusiastic audience of Fellows and Members attended. Mrs. Fenwick said:—

If I were to speak to you of "ships and shoes and sealing wax, and cabbages and kings," you might imagine you had been lured here under false pretences, yet all would be relevant for my purpose.

Let methods of transport suffice. The magnificent mechanism by which we move, and by which we may be said to have our being. A moment's thought—noble ships, glittering sails, dynamic motors, air conquering aeroplanes—in all are apparent the creative faculty of man, and his control of that branch of mechanics which treats of the effects of force in producing motion. What have we women done to evolve these marvels? And why do the majority of our sex take them for granted? Rather should they not arouse amazement, admiration, enquiry, emulation?

Let us realise how such force is organised and controlled. Quite simply. Just a few men seated round a table, pen or pencil in hand, an inkstand, a few sheets of paper, note-book, minute book and ledger! A knowledge of the rules of procedure and how to apply them, a sense of duty and the hope of gain.

These men form a Committee or Board of Directors. One controls their deliberations; they are intent on what is known as business, and where transport is concerned on land, water and in air, the safety of millions of lives largely depends upon their business faculties and powers of organisation.

To govern and maintain the balance of power where transport is concerned, members of Governments also sit round tables. There, again, are pens, pencils, paper. These persons deliberate according to rule; they make laws and depute powers to authorised bodies, who interpret them well or ill according to their knowledge and capacity. But one and all have to realise that organisation is a matter of business, based on a code of simple rules and regulations, and that it is the duty of every member of a committee not only to memorise that code, but also to have it on the tips of their tongues, for instant use and expression.

And with these few preliminary words we come to the reason for this gathering this evening.

Fifty years' experience of public and professional life has convinced me that as a class nurses are deplorably ignorant of the elements and procedure of public business, and that before they can hope to give effect to their aspirations for the progress of their profession—and the performance of their duty as citizens—as focussed in this College, they must realise their ignorance and study the principles of public business and perfect themselves in the methods by which it is conducted, so that in the future there shall be no truth in the assertion—as there undoubtedly is at present—that registered nurses are, because of their ignorance, unfit for professional self-government.

Apathy and resulting ignorance have been the reason of our futility in organising in the past. This meeting proves, however, that mental forces are stirring, and our moral sense on the *qui vive*. Accurate knowledge on procedure, and the laws and rules which govern business methods and debate, must be our objective in the future. No very difficult task. The difficulty is to apply such knowledge promptly when acquired as so much depends

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