

Thanks and Loyalty to the Foundress.

Miss A. M. Bushby, F.B.C.N., asked that the grateful thanks and loyalty of the College might be conveyed to the Foundress. This was agreed by acclamation.

Thanks to the President.

Mrs. Lancelot Andrews, F.B.C.N., proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the President, and congratulated her on her restoration to health. A short time ago she had not very great hope of seeing the President here that day, but those who had watched her through her career, knew the courage and determination which had enabled her to overcome the cause of her serious illness.

Mrs. Andrews congratulated the President on her organising ability and her indomitable power for work, and hoped that she might long be spared to work in the interests of the British College of Nurses.

These expressions were heartily cheered. The President thanked those present, and the Meeting then terminated.

THE RECEPTION.

The Reception held by the Council after the Meeting was evidently a very popular gathering. Never had the beautiful house presented a more festive appearance. The exquisite floral decorations were not only the very generous gift, but had been arranged by the magical touch, of Miss Beatrice Treasure, F.B.C.N. The Halls were gay with lovely pots of ferns and red roses, pink carnations and exquisite lilies. Every room was in bloom; roses, lilies, carnations and lovely mauve iris and pots of pink spiræa. Each room came in for special admiration. The office and Board room of the Registered Nurses' Association, of which Miss Treasure is a Member, vied with the College—here lovely white roses—and flame-coloured gladiola—with the fresh green of beech leaves and mauve iris, enhanced the beauty of the fine rooms. Amongst the Fellows and Members who kindly sent flowers were Mrs. Berens-Dowdswell, Miss MacWilliam, Miss Keys-Wells, and Mrs. Wates. Guests of the Fellows and Members were warm in praise of the beauty of the house and decorations, and many expressed the desire to run away with some of the beautiful antique furniture with which the College has been enriched.

Tea, strawberries and cream, and ices were served in the Secretary's Office, which was a bower of sweet peas, and thus fortified the guests were taken round in groups to see the Nurses' Clubroom, the Council Chamber, and on the first floor the Lecture Halls (perfect Flaxman rooms) and Class Room. On the second floor the offices of the Registered Nurses' Association, and on the third floor, the office and recording offices of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Amongst the guests was Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, D.Sc., J.P., herself a wonderful international organiser in connection with the International Council of Women; it will please all members of the College to know that she expressed the warmest approval and admiration of the arrangements. "Just a dream come true—wonderful, wonderful!" "All this exquisite order—woman's work without a doubt."

Exhibition of Valentines.

Mrs. Willoughby Hodgson, the great art expert and authoress of that delightful work "The Quest of the Antique," most kindly offered to exhibit some

of her fine collection of Valentines. These she was good enough to display in the Board Room of the R.N.A.

Amongst these lovely Valentines were several very early specimens, a delicate finely-cut example being marked on the back in faded old-world writing, "Bought at Ostend, February 3, 1785. When this you see, dear Robert, remember me."

Two valentines sent in 1834 and 1835 by Lord Goderich to his old nurse, Mrs. Plant, were specially interesting in that the sender had written verses on the inner leaf in praise of his faithful old friend. The elaborate paper-lace borders of some Dobbs and Kidd specimens surrounding elaborately painted flowers, birds and tokens and the passionate sentimental verses caused not a little wonder to some of the younger nurses, though to their elders they brought back memories of "youth and beaux." Some of the comic specimens, notably that of a movable kneeling swain kissing the hand of a crinolined lady with large chignon, caused much laughter, whilst the photogravure of a valentine sent about 1855 by David Livingstone and the envelope bearing his signature were considered very attractive exhibits. This was a Dobbs and Kidd specimen, and showed a little black girl surrounded by a handsome paper-lace border and the inscription, "Oh Missee! me lub you so berry much, me long to make you happy!"

Livingstone did not marry the young lady to whom he sent this very intimate message. Valentines may still be picked up quite cheaply, and any intending collector should look out for specimens by Dobb or Dobbs and Kidd, Mansell, Windsor, Kershaw and others whose names will be found impressed upon the paper lace under the central motif or on some scroll or leaf.

Many of those present were delighted to renew acquaintance with Mrs. Willoughby-Hodgson, who holds our profession in high esteem.

Thus happily passed the Third Annual Day. We have only to hope a growing sense of professional responsibility will find a great increase of membership year by year.

THE COUNCIL MEETING, JULY 27TH.

Space will not permit of a full report of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Council on July 27th, this month, owing to the lengthy report of the Annual Meeting. Very interesting business was transacted.

Election.

The result of the Election of Fellows was reported and the President, who was in the Chair, welcomed Miss K. A. Smith, R.R.C., F.B.C.N., and Miss Alice Bright, M.B.C.N., to the Council.

Report of the Education Committee.

The Report of the Education Committee, which was adopted, recommended:—

That coaching classes be held at the College beginning in September for those Nurses wishing for further instruction preparatory to sitting for the next examinations of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Application *re* terms to be made to the Secretary.

Grants.

MIDWIFERY.

The three grants of £35 for training in midwifery for 1929-30 are now available. Application Forms

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