

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The Thirty-seventh Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1., on October 19th, at 2 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and the following members were present:—Miss M. Breay and Miss S. Villiers, *Vice Presidents*; Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss D. K. Graham, Miss E. Kennedy, Miss I. Macdonald, Miss K. A. Smith, R.R.C. *Fellows*; and Miss E. Bright, Miss E. J. Haswell, and Miss K. M. Latham, R.R.C., *Members*.

Prayers having been read by the Secretary, the Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

Business arising out of the Minutes.

It was reported that all the nominees for election as Hon. Officers to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain had consented to act if elected.

Correspondence.

Much correspondence was dealt with.

A letter from Mrs. Foord Caiger, conveying to the Council "deep appreciation of their very kind expression of sympathy in my great loss. I value greatly the President's testimony to the regard and esteem in which my husband was held."

Letter from Mr. L. T. Feldon, Secretary to the Mental Hospitals' Association, which Association has under consideration the question of the Registration of Mental Nurses. It was reported that the Association had not yet acceded to the request of the Council to be permitted to place its views on the subject before the Executive Committee of the Association.

From Miss Alice M. Burns, F.B.C.N., an explanatory letter from the Health Office, Mombasa, Kenya, giving much interesting information on Nursing conditions in that Colony.

Miss Burns is now employed by the Government and finds her work "extremely interesting and is very happy in it." She states, "I have been detailed to work under the Port Health Officer, who is also Schools Officer, so my work is very varied. Nearly all Mombasa's 1,000 school children are Asiatics and Africans, one has to speak Swahili to them. The Nursing is to be improved at the Infectious Diseases Hospital. I am especially interested in our Leper Colony... we hope to bring a portion of the ground under cultivation, to give them employment and more varied diet."

Miss Burns advocates more professional authority in Nursing organisations in Kenya. This let us hope will come with time. The more indispensable the pioneer nurses in the Colony become the more professional authority they will acquire.

Letter from Miss E. M. Hawkins, F.B.C.N., from Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A., enquiring about grants for training in Laboratory Technique. This letter was referred to the Education Committee.

Letter from Miss Agnes Henderson, Glasgow, fearing inability to attend the Opening Session on October 22nd, she wrote: "I had looked forward so much to meeting you all and to seeing our College, and above all to witnessing the presentation of the Gold Medal to dear

kind Miss Breay." Miss Henderson has kindly sent a gift of money to be spent on flowers on the Opening Session Day.

Letter from Member asking for financial help.

Letters of Thanks.

From Miss M. Davy, F.B.C.N.: "I shall always remember with pleasure the privileged task of placing a wreath on the Monument at Quebec to Generals Wolfe and Montcalm I was allowed to undertake for the College."

From Miss Winifred Mullaney, R.B.N.A. Home, Kent Town, South Australia, sending most grateful thanks for message of sympathy when seriously ill. Miss Mullaney writes: "I am grateful to our Wise and Merciful God for having vouchsafed me this fresh dispensation of life; though still in hospital I hope to be able to leave in a few days' time... I am feeling better than I have felt for years... everyone's kindness to me has been overwhelming."

From Miss E. Barry and Miss Gladys Marsh for grants in aid of midwifery training.

Election of Members.

Applications for membership were received and considered, and all applicants were elected with the exception of one awaiting further information.

Financial Report.

The President presented a satisfactory financial report. £114 9s. had been received since the meeting in September.

The Secretary's Report.

The Secretary reported that since the last meeting there had been 45 visitors to the College, amongst them Miss Enriqueta Macaraig, Matron, General Hospital, Manila; Miss Ellis, late Matron, General Hospital, Vancouver; Miss F. M. Cooke, from the United States; Miss Meyboom, Miss Van der Hoop, Miss Dittner and Miss Hayburn, from The Hague; and Mrs. Moore from Jamaica.

Arrangements had been made for Lectures and Meetings up to Christmas.

Early in the New Year, Professor Mottram hopes to give a Course of Lectures on the Ductless Glands, and Dr. Graham Little, M.P., two Lectures on Skin Diseases. All books ordered to date for the Reference Library had been received, and Miss Elsie Armstrong, F.B.C.N., was attending three days a week to cover the books in linen covers.

Miss Graham's Report.

Miss Graham presented a short report of Coaching Classes, and reported that Classes were being held in the following subjects: Medicine and Medical Nursing, Surgery and Surgical Nursing, Hygiene and Bacteriology, General Nursing and Dietetics.

History of Nursing Section.

Miss A. M. Bushby, Chairman of the History of Nursing Section, presented the following report which was adopted:

History of Nursing Report.

The History of Nursing Committee met on Tuesday, October 15th, and it was decided that the history of all Pioneer Nurses, and especially those whose names

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