

THE FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on July 10th at 3 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, F.B.C.N., was in the Chair, in her robes of office, supported by Dr. Bedford Fenwick, Treasurer and Trustee, and the following Councilors and ex-Councilors were present:—

Miss M. Breay and Miss S. A. Villiers, *Vice-Presidents*; Mrs. Lancelot Andrews, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss D. K. Graham, Miss I. Macdonald, Miss K. Smith, R.R.C., Miss H. L. Pearse, *Fellows*; and Miss A. M. Bright, Miss K. M. Latham, R.R.C., and Miss E. J. Haswell, *Members*. Their beautiful robes were much admired by the Fellows and Members present and gave colour, dignity and an academic atmosphere to the proceedings.

The President called on the Secretary, Miss A. Stewart Bryson, to read the notice convening the meeting. This done and Prayers having been read, the Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL AND THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR 1929 TO 1930.

The President then presented the Fourth Annual Report of the Council for 1929-1930, which we print below abridged.

THE REPORT.

In presenting the Fourth Annual Report of the Council to the Annual Meeting of the British College of Nurses, the Council is glad to congratulate its Fellows and Members on its continued success, and on the important developments and progress which it has made during the past year.

During the year, the Council has met eleven times and transacted a large amount of business, while Standing and Sub-Committees have given frequent and considered attention to the various activities of the College.

The membership of the College has steadily increased at home and abroad. It is deeply regretted that we have lost by death four Fellows and one Member during the year.

This year, the Council loses the very valuable services of Miss S. A. Villiers as Vice-President, and of Miss A. M. Bushby and Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., all of whom have served for a term of four years as Fellows, and of Miss E. J. Haswell who has served for the same period as a Member. The services of all four ladies have been invaluable, and the Fellows and Members owe them a great debt of gratitude.

Only two nominations for Fellows, and one for a Member, were received for the three vacancies on the Council which have thus occurred in accordance with the bye-laws. There was, therefore, no necessity for an election, and the nominations of Miss Elizabeth Brodie, Lady Superintendent of the Royal Mental Hospital, Glasgow, and Miss Nora Farrant, Inspector under the Queen's Institute of District Nursing (Fellows), and Miss Henrietta Georgina Ballard, Sister Tutor of St. Leonard's Hospital, Shoreditch (Member), have been accepted and confirmed by the Council.

Many Fellows and Members at Home and Overseas have expressed their pleasure on receiving the College Diploma and their appreciation of the beauty of its design.

The College Badge has also proved to be much appreciated. It can be obtained from the Secretary, 39, Portland Place, London, W. The cost is 10s. which includes the engraving of the name and College number on the Badge.

Warm appreciation has been expressed, by many Fellows and Members of the College, of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, of which, for the last thirty-seven years Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has acted as Hon. Editor. This is very satisfactory, because it indicates that its readers realise the vital importance for the Nursing Profession of a free voice in the Press, as well as the onerous and invaluable work given to the Nursing Profession by the President of this College, in this matter.

The Council of the College has been mainly concerned during the twelve months in consolidating its work in the following directions: The promotion of (1) efficient professional and civic education; (2) the economic security of its Fellows and Members; (3) their legal protection; and (4) social activities; (5) benevolent help; (6) the collection of historical data connected with the Nursing Profession.

Lectures have been given by Dr. W. H. F. Oxley on the Memorandum of the British Medical Association, outlining its National Maternity Service Scheme for England and Wales. An Address on the Departmental Committee of the Ministry of Health to consider the working of the Midwives Acts, 1902 and 1926, with special reference to the training of Midwives, and the conditions under which Midwives are employed, by Miss Gladys Le Geyt, F.B.C.N. Two lectures on the Eye by Miss K. A. Mann, M.B., F.R.C.S.; two lectures on Bacteriology by Dr. Arthur Rosher, M.R.C.S.; seven lectures on the Ductless Glands by Professor V. H. Mottram, M.A., appointed Teacher in the University of London; a lecture by Sir Robert Armstrong Jones, C.B.E., F.R.C.P., on "Superstition"; two lectures on Diseases of the Skin by Dr. Graham Little, M.P., B.A., F.R.C.P.; and a course of Lectures on Advanced Psychology by Dr. T. Ronald Forsythe, Ch.B., D.P.M. Eng., designed to prepare nurses for the examination in Mental Nursing for the Diploma in Mental Nursing of London University. At the conclusion of the Course, an Examination was held at the College, when all the candidates passed. Dr. Forsythe considered the results extremely gratifying. The papers of three candidates were excellent and contained many original ideas.

During the year, Coaching Classes have been given by Miss D. K. Graham at the College, to nurses requiring additional instruction before entering for the examinations of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, or who have already entered and failed and wished to sit again. Miss Graham is a very successful teacher, and the results have been most satisfactory, as every candidate whom she has coached this year has successfully passed her examination.

The President, by request, gave three classes on the conduct of Public Business at meetings, in the Council Chamber of the College. The subjects stressed were (1) The preparation for a Meeting; (2) The Chair; (3) The Agenda; (4) Committee Work; (5) Minutes; (6) How to vote; (7) Resolutions; (8) Amendments; (9) Riders; (10) Imperial Parliament—the Speaker as Chairman in the Commons, and the Lord Chancellor as Chairman in the Lords. The classes were much appreciated, and at the conclusion of each, Round Table Talks took place, which it was decided might be extended in the future, on matters of topical interest.

On the suggestion of a Member several Debates were held—two of the subjects proposed being "Should animal pets be kept in a Hospital?" and "Should Nurses smoke in uniform?" Incidentally, the latter question had to be changed, because no one could be found to argue that Nurses should smoke in uniform; therefore, Miss Henrietta Ballard presented a short paper entitled "Nurses should not smoke in uniform."

Educational Grants have been made by the Council of the College and have been greatly appreciated by those to whom they have been awarded.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)