

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

### DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

A constantly recurring happiness to the Council and Staff of the British College of Nurses is the increasing number of visits it receives from notable nurses from all parts of the world.

During August the visitors have included our own wonderful Mrs. Strong, our Consul-General for Scotland, as full of energy at 88 as she was at 18.

Miss Elizabeth Smellie, R.N., Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses of Canada, who met a few representative members of the Council at tea at the College, though the President, and others alas, were away. Miss Smellie had the good fortune to be staying with Lord Aberdeen and Lady Aberdeen (who founded the Victorian Order of Nurses, during Lord Aberdeen's term of office as Governor-General in Canada) when the King and Queen passed through Ballater Station on their way to Balmoral. As Lord Lieutenant of the County Lord Aberdeen received them there, and, by previous arrangement, presented Miss Smellie to their Majesties, to her great pleasure.

Miss Nance Pattrick, R.N., from Dunedin, New Zealand, where, as Director of Nursing in connection with the Royal New Zealand Society for the Health of Women and Children (the Plunket Society) she is working enthusiastically, on the methods approved by Sir Truby King, to teach New Zealand mothers so to rear their babies that the infantile death rate will fall until it is negligible, and the children of the Dominion will develop into virile and splendid men and women.

Miss Elizabeth Burgess, R.N., President of the National League of Nursing Education, U.S.A., and a Professor at Teachers' College, Columbia University. It was with great pleasure that we welcomed Miss Burgess to the College, and had the opportunity of showing her its treasures, including the file of *THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* from 1888 onwards, and of *THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING* from the first volume in 1900. The beautiful proportions and decorations of the rooms, the furniture, the robes of the Councillors, the china and pottery in the antique cabinets, the Book of Remembrance in its lovely rose-coloured and gold binding, and the President's chair, a memorial to Sister Elizabeth Kennedy the first Councillor to be removed by death, all came in for their share of admiration. We had an opportunity of some conversation with Miss Burgess as to the unemployment of nurses in the United States, and she confirmed the statement recently circulated by Miss Susan C. Francis, Secretary of the American Nurses' Association, that the nursing field there is overcrowded.

Miss Burgess lunched with us at the United Nursing Services Club, and was much interested in the story of its foundation, and within a stone's throw are the V.A.D. Club, and the Cowdray Club. Some Americans, we remarked, think that the results of war are wholly evil, but at least, so far as nurses are concerned, the means to found these Clubs involving an expenditure of many thousands of pounds affords proof that when the work of nurses was under the observation of the public in this time of agony it was not found wanting.

After lunch we went on to South Street, Park Lane, W., and Miss Burgess saw No. 10—the house in which Miss Nightingale spent so many years of her life—still intact, but perilously near the hands of the housebreakers.

Miss Myra Louise Taylor, Matron of the General Hospital, St. John's, Newfoundland, who was keenly interested in what the College had to show her.

Mrs. Y. Prop, from Holland, concerned with social work in the homes of the people, including that for mental

deficients. It will thus be seen that many and varied interests are brought to the College, and that constantly it is both giving out and receiving fresh impulses and interests.

Then Miss M. Schoenholzer, who is the Lady Superintendent of a Society of Trained Mental Nurses in Zurich, and Examiner of Swiss Mental Nurses, has paid us a visit, and we found that we had much in common with her and much of interest to show her, and forged another of those links which binds the nurses of the world so closely together.

Miss Clara Jones, R.N., of the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables, of Los Angeles, was naturally very interested in the interesting collection referring to Miss Nightingale which Miss Bushby, Chairman of the History of Nursing Section, is steadily accumulating.

### COACHING CLASSES FOR THE STATE EXAMINATIONS.

Nurses who desire to join the Coaching Classes in October next, please apply at once to

THE SECRETARY,

British College of Nurses,  
39, Portland Place,  
London, W.1.

Former pupils taught by Miss D. K. Graham have passed the State Examinations and been placed upon the State Register of Nurses, without which qualification nurses have no legal status at home or abroad.

### EXAMINATION IN ADVANCED PSYCHOLOGY.

The prize promised by Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Matron of the Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone, to the nurse who took the first place in the Examination in Advanced Psychology held after the course of lectures given at the British College of Nurses by Dr. T. Ronald Forsythe, and also the certificates awarded in this Examination, will be presented at the Opening Meeting of the Autumn Session of the College in October.

The book selected by Miss Macaulay as her prize is "Instinct and the Unconscious: A contribution to a biological theory of the Psycho-Neuroses" by W. H. R. Rivers, M.D., D.Sc., L.L.D., F.R.S.

### DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The next meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses will be held at 39, Portland Place on Saturday, September 20th, at 2.15 p.m.

### WHAT OUR FELLOWS ARE DOING.

The following Fellows of the B.C.N. have recently been selected for important posts. As we notify on page 247, Miss Silvia H. Vian, Assistant Matron of Charing Cross Hospital, has been appointed Matron of the Royal United Hospital, Bath. Miss R. Buckland, Matron of the Sheffield Free Children's Hospital, and Miss A. T. Hyde, Matron of the Southern Hospital, Dartford. They have our heartiest good wishes for their success and happiness in these responsible positions.

### PAYING GUESTS.

Miss Florence G. Smyth, M.B.C.N., of Sunnyhame, Fay Road, Dawlish, Devon, writes that, if any Fellow or Member of the College desires a holiday in Devon she is prepared this summer to receive a few as paying guests. Terms 3 guineas a week, or by arrangement. Breakfast in bed if desired. Tor Bay and the moors are easily accessible.

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