One of the most interesting participators in this Fortieth Anniversary Reunion was Mrs. Marian Turner Brockway, who, in 1891, was the first probationer to enter the School of Nursing at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. On responding for the class of 1891 she mentioned that they numbered seventeen. Of these five had died, five were unable to be present at this dinner, and seven attended.

# THE FENWICK GOLD MEDAL OF MERIT.

We have been invited by Miss Frederike Meyboom, of The Hague, Holland, to insert the following letter sent to Miss Isabel Macdonald from some of her Dutch colleagues :-

"DEAR MISS MACDONALD,

With very deep appreciation the Dutch nurses took part in the honour you received from the beloved President Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, who presented to you the Fenwick Gold Medal of Merit.

We agree with great enthusiasm with the beautiful and hearty speech, we are thinking of all the friendship you have given us, and that it is you who gave us the feeling of love for the R.B.N.A. Club. It is quite true, as Mrs. Bedford Fenwick says, that you make visitors from

home and abroad 'so happily welcome.'

We never shall forget the happy month spent in the Club under your dear motherly care. We also shall never forget the brilliant days we spent in the spring of 1930

in the Club.

My party and I have very highly appreciated all the honour, the friendship and fellowship in your country and in the Association.

Without your help, it would not have been such a

great success.

We all send to you our most grateful and hearty wishes and congratulations. Sometimes words are too poor to tell the feeling of our hearts. I close this letter with the very words of Mrs. Bedford-Fenwick, that, indeed, hundreds of your colleagues will rejoice to know you honoured by those who appreciate the inestimable value of your personal and professional worth.

We are happy that we may belong to the hundreds."

## THE PROFESSIONAL WORK OF THE LATE MISS MOLLETT.

In our last issue we invited nurses who had worked with the late Miss Mollett at Southampton and elsewhere to communicate with the Editor so that an article could be published dealing with her professional career. So far we have received no response.

Miss Lina Mollett writes to us from Chile:-

With cordial greetings to my dear sister's friends over, in and around the British College of Nurses and THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. I am forwarding to them some sketches of her autumn days, hoping that among those who worked with her one may be willing to record her professional activities.

To such I send the photos of the Royal Southampton Hospital and the American Journal of Nursing (1901)

containing her photo.

The latter has weathered several severe earthquakes (in 1906, 1910, 1918, 1922) to which fact please ascribe its shabby appearance.

Who will undertake this piece of work for which Miss Lina Mollett pleads so eloquently?

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The fifty-eighth meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.I, on Saturday, September 19th, at 2.15 p.m. The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the chair, and all the members of the Council were present.

Prayers having been read by the Secretary, the Minutes

of the last meeting were confirmed.

#### BUSINESS ARISING.

### The Need for Female Attendants in Public Mortuaries.

The following additional replies from public authorities were reported:

In sympathy with the Resolution and taking steps in the matter.

r. From the Town Clerk, Dorchester. Reply from Miss Farrimond, Matron of the Isolation Hospital, Dorchester,

stating deaths were attended by trained nurses.

From the Town Clerk, Hull, stating that the resolution had been submitted to the appropriate Committee of the Council, when they passed a resolution endorsing the sentiments expressed therein, and requested the Medical Officer of Health to report as to how effect can be given to the same locally.

The Town Clerk, Chatham, stating that the letter and resolution "was considered by my Council at their last meeting, when they resolved to support the action taken by your Council, and instructions were given to engage a female mortuary attendant."

The Town Clerk, Guildford, replied that: "The Council supported the resolution, and the Chief Constable has been instructed to report upon the steps which can be taken to deal with the matter."

The Town Clerk, Peterborough, replied: "My Council, at their meeting held on 31st ult., had under consideration your letter dated June 30th; agreed that arrangements be made for the Police Matron to act as female attendant at the Public Mortuary.

The Town Clerk, Northampton, replied: "Referring to your letter of June 18th last, my Council passed a resolution that they approved of and are in sympathy with the

resolution adopted by the British College of Nurses."

The Town Clerk, Cheltenham, replied: "I am sure this resolution will receive sympathetic consideration by my Board," but before bringing the matter before them asks for information on the subject.

#### No action to be taken.

From the Town Clerk, Woolwich: "Matter considered. No action to be taken.'

The Town Clerk, Eastbourne: "The matter has received the careful consideration of both the Sanitary and Public Health Committees of the Town Council, and is being recommended not to make any alteration in the existing arrangement.'

The President felt sure that the Council would realise that as the majority of the replies were in sympathy that the dead bodies of women should be attended by women in Public Mortuaries, a very satisfactory beginning had been made in arousing interest in the proposed reform, and she urged that further efforts should be made to stir public interest in the reverential treatment of the dead bodies of women.

It was agreed to send letters of thanks to the Public Authorities who were promoting the reform.

The Educational Standard of Nurse Examiners. The following correspondence was reported between the previous page next page