

meeting her once again and hearing of her most interesting work, and are proud to have her a Fellow of the British College of Nurses.

FIXTURES.

November 17th.—Meeting of Tutorial Group. Subject for Discussion "Feeding in Nutritional Diseases of Children." 39, Portland Place, W. 8 p.m.

November 19th.—Class on Administration. Visit to Fulham Hospital, Hammersmith. 2.30 p.m.

November 21st.—Monthly Meeting of the Council. 39, Portland Place, W. 2.15 p.m.

December 3rd.—A Dance to Fellows and Members of the British College of Nurses to be given by Miss I. Macdonald and Miss D. K. Graham, at the Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7. 8 p.m.

LONDON WEEK.

The Councillors of the British College of Nurses have the pleasure to invite three Fellows or Members of the College from the Provinces, and one from Scotland, to spend a week as their guests at the Club of the Royal British Nurses' Association early in the New Year, and will be pleased to hear from Fellows or Members who would enjoy this hospitality, and who might not otherwise be able to spend a week's holiday in the metropolis.

Those who would like to avail themselves of this opportunity are requested to communicate with the Secretary of the British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

ISLA STEWART MEMORIAL BOOKCASE.

Miss Honor Felicité MacCormac, F.B.C.N., has taken charge of the collection of books which have been donated to the Isla Stewart Memorial Bookcase, and has been busy arranging them in their respective sections. When this is done it is hoped to make a list of books which would add to their completeness, and that some kind donors—those who loved and admired Isla Stewart—will make gifts.

COACHING CLASSES.

Coaching Classes are held by arrangement at the College to coach Nurses who require additional instruction, and to prepare them for the Examinations of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Apply for terms to the Secretary, British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

WHAT OUR FELLOWS ARE DOING.

Lecture on Nursing History.

On Friday, November 6, Miss Isabel Macdonald gave a lecture on Nursing History at Liverpool. The Liverpool University very kindly granted the use of one of its Lecture Rooms for the purpose, and Mrs. Rebecca Strong, was in the chair and introduced the lecturer.

In commencing her lecture, Miss Macdonald referred to the part which Liverpool had played in the making of Nursing History. Its Royal Infirmary had for long been one of the leading Schools of Nursing in the kingdom. Reference would be made in the lecture to the part which Agnes Jones had played in the reform of Poor Law Nursing—a reform which owed its foundation to a Liverpool gentleman, Mr. Wm. Rathbone.

The lecturer said that it would only be possible, in the space of an hour, to take but the merest glance over the panorama of nursing history as it has existed from pre-Christian ages.

In her closing remarks afterwards Mrs. Strong said that the lecture had shown that the nurses of the present time had entered upon a great heritage.

Miss Haswell, in the name of the Council of the British College of Nurses, thanked Mrs. Strong for having taken the chair, and presented to her a beautiful bouquet of roses.

THE OPENING OF THE WINTER SESSION.

A HELLENIC CRUISE AND A VISIT TO THE TEMPLE OF ÆSCULAPIUS AT EPIDAUROS.

It was the good fortune of the British College of Nurses that lovely weather heralded the opening of the Winter Session on Friday, October 30th. Beautiful flowers and autumn foliage arranged by the Secretary, Miss A. Stewart Bryson, F.B.C.N., to whose touch flowers always respond, decorated the College throughout, and everyone seemed happy and glad to once more meet with friends and professional colleagues.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, and the Councillors in their Robes, received the guests, and conversation proceeded merrily while the company assembled.

The special feature of the afternoon was the Address given by Miss Gladys Le Geyt in the Lecture Hall on "A Hellenic Cruise and a Visit to the Temple of Æsculapius at Epidauros," whom the President introduced to the Fellows and Members of the College as the latest Member of its Council, whom they had elected to represent their interests upon it; she felt sure, therefore, they would be pleased to make a closer acquaintance with her.

We regret we are only able to give a very abridged Report of this intensely interesting Address, mainly in relation to the visit to the Temple of Æsculapius, in whom Miss Le Geyt told her audience her interest was first aroused by the wonderful Pageant of Nursing History organised by the President in 1911 and the beautiful Hygeia (daughter of Æsculapius) who was its central figure.

THE ADDRESS.

ABRIDGED.

Opportunity came my way to be counted among the guests on the Hellenic Travellers' Club Summer Cruise for an all-too-fleeting three weeks at the end of August and September.

I had the delightful experience of cruising in the Mediterranean with the comfort of perfect organisation, in wondrous good company of some friends and many strangers, including some distinguished scholars and archaeologists, who gave us lectures, often in relation to what we were going to see the following day at our next port of arrival.

Our chief leader on the expeditions was one whose mind was steeped in the history and literature of Greece. He had the gift of sublimating his great erudition into speech that made the old Greek landmarks live before our eyes in their supreme beauty and idealism, lit up by human touches of humour and sometimes tragedy, which have left deep impressions on the minds of my companions and myself.

To get some understanding of the Greek spirit, it is not enough to study her history, great as were the consequences of some of her battles: the defeat of the Persians at Marathon, followed some 12 years later by the defeat of the Persian fleet at Salamis (480 B.C.), and finally the Grecian victory of Plataea, where the Athenians, unaided by any of their allies, finally destroyed the Persian army and checked the invasion of Europe by an Eastern power. Athens, in her hour of triumph, inaugurated the Golden Age of the world's history. The Parthenon rebuilt in Pentelicon marble and a great experiment in democratic government was launched.

It is not enough to study Greek literature, which only reaches the majority of us through "the watery medium" of translation, as someone tersely puts it. It would seem as though understanding comes to us by trying to piece together the art of living of the Athenians, the high standard of beauty, which they reproduced in their sculpture and which

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)