

SHORT STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF COLLEGE ACTIVITIES DURING 1930.

The President stated that when she attempted to compile a short statement of the activities of the Council and the College during the past year she found that so much had been accomplished that a short report seemed impossible. She congratulated the Council on the harmonious manner in which the business had been accomplished, and its sympathetic and public spirited attitude to the fundamental principles for which the College had been established.

To mention a few. The Council had taken public action in protesting to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales against the retention of criminals on the State Register of Nurses. It had presented a Protest to the Medical Committee in the House of Commons on the subject, and instructed the Press on the matter. It had communicated with the Minister of Health who appeared helpless, if not indifferent, on this grave question—not only of protection of Registered Nurses, but of the public.

The Council had taken action on the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Training and Employment of Midwives—set up by the Minister of Health—and had embodied its views in the following Resolution, which was forwarded to the Ministry and to the Departmental Committee, the Central Midwives Board, and other bodies.

(a) That there should be no dual control in the government of the Profession of Midwifery and no transference of the powers of the Central Midwives Board to the Ministry of Health.

(b) That entrance to the Profession of Midwives be restricted to Registered Nurses.

Publicity had been given through THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING and elsewhere to the attempt of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association to control the examination and registration of Mental Nurses, and thus deprive mentally trained nurses of the independent examination granted to them in the Nurses' Registration Acts, and thus break down the one portal system.

A Deputation of the College had attended on the Chairman of the London County Council in connection with its work with nursing under the 1929 Local Government Act, and a little out of order perhaps, laid great stress on the necessity of supporting the authority of the Matron in her own department, if good discipline was to be maintained, and the danger to the economic stability of Registered Nurses by the employment of semi-trained nurses and assistant nurses in municipal hospitals at half the fee of private Registered Nurses.

The Council had maintained its interest in the study of Disease and Crime, concerning which it had received valuable information from members of the medical profession.

A Tutorial Group had been formed of members of the College organised by Miss D. K. Graham and Miss Ballard. Meetings for the study of modern nursing methods had been held monthly.

The Education Committee had accomplished much good work. Grants had been made to further the education of nurses in midwifery, the Health Visitors' Course, Tropical Nursing, Advanced Psychology and to provide other useful special instruction.

The Social Section had been active. Delightful Rambles—London Week for a group of nurses who thoroughly enjoyed the gaiety. The Annual Dinner had been the greatest success, and the social gatherings at the College had brought the Fellows and Members into personal touch with the Council and other colleagues.

The History of Nursing Section had gone forward most successfully, guided by Miss Bushby, and most valuable assets had been gathered together by purchase and generous gifts.

Two beautiful memorials had been set up in the College—The Presidential Chair, in memory of the late Elizabeth

Kennedy, member of the Council, and a fine piece of plate to be used on Registration Day in memory of the late Sir Richard Barnett, the Nurses' champion in the House of Commons.

Eminent nurses from all over the world had visited the College and signed the Distinguished Visitors' Book—and for the first time a member of the Royal Family, H.R.H. the Princess Arthur of Connaught, had honoured the College with a visit.

The President alluded, with gratitude, to the expert work of Miss M. Breay, Vice-President, in compiling the History of the International Council of Nurses from 1899 to 1925, and thanked Miss Macdonald and Miss Latham for their contributions to THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING—without which Journal the work of the College could not be carried on, and which needed all the support and push that could be given to it.

The year had been one of progress and prosperity—the half could not be told. In future the Council should do all in its power to encourage well trained Registered Nurses to become Fellows and Members, and take their part in consolidating and governing their own profession.

REPORT OF EDUCATION SECTION.

A short report was presented on Correspondence *re* Lectures.

Grants allocated during the year 1930 amounted to £174 19s.

Lectures arranged, 1931.

The following Lectures have been arranged:—

January 22nd, 1931.—Dr. Frederick Heaf, M.D., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. 1st Lecture on "The Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis." 5.30 p.m.

January 29th.—2nd Lecture. 5.30 p.m.

February 5th.—3rd Lecture. 5.30 p.m.

February 12th.—4th Lecture. 5.30 p.m.

February 19th.—Dr. Stanley Wyard, M.D., Lond., M.B., B.Sc., M.R.C.P. 1st Lecture on "Recent Developments in the Treatment of Cancer." 5.30 p.m.

February 26th.—2nd Lecture. 5.30 p.m.

March 11th.—Dr. R. G. Cochrane, M.B., M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. One Lecture on Leprosy. Hour to be arranged.

Lectures are to be arranged on Radium and on Hospital Administration.

THE SOCIAL SCHEMES COMMITTEE.

Miss I. Macdonald, Chairman, gave a brief report of the function held on November 26th, when she delivered a Lecture at the College on Nursing History, and at which H.R.H. the Princess Arthur of Connaught took the Chair, which was largely attended, she also reported the success of the "At Home" given by Miss Cochrane and Miss Bushby. The Council expressed its gratitude for the lovely floral decorations of Miss Beatrice Treasure.

The Report was adopted.

THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION.

Miss Bushby, Chairman, reported that since the last meeting of the Council she had secured from Miss Bright a presentation copy of "The greatest thing in the world," given to a nurse by Miss Florence Nightingale with notes in Miss Nightingale's handwriting—two photographs of Miss Barclay, a nurse who worked in the Crimea. One is in uniform. Also a photograph of a Miss Allen, a pioneer missionary nurse in Zanzibar, given to her by Miss Frances Sterling. She had given "The Life of Edward and Catherine Stanley," written by Dean Stanley, who also wrote "The Life of Mary Stanley," who went out to the Crimea as a nurse. This history was at the back of the volume. Miss Breay had given "Eminent Victorians," by Lytton Strachey. Miss Villiers had sent 10s.

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