

attendance of Members, who after the Meeting took tea in the Secretary's office.

On April 14th a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was held at 39, Portland Place—Morning Session 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Afternoon Session 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.—and at the conclusion of the Meeting all present were entertained to tea by the College Council.

On Saturday, May 28th, the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain held a Special Meeting of the Grand Council, in the Lecture Hall at the British College of Nurses, to consider "Nightingale Week" and International Council of Nurses' Business and Congress, July, 1933, and at the conclusion of the Meeting all those present were entertained to tea by the President of the National Council of Nurses.

The President and Council had the pleasure of entertaining Miss B. G. Alexander, R.R.C., President of the South African Trained Nurses' Association, after the Meeting of the Council on Saturday, October 24th. Miss Alexander was warmly welcomed by the Council, and the President in its name, presented her with a bouquet of *Harrisii* Lilies and Cape Gooseberries, tied with green and yellow ribbons, the South African colours. The President also presented Miss Alexander with a pair of plates of very fine eighteenth century blue and white Leeds pottery.

The opening of the Winter Session of the British College of Nurses took place at 39, Portland Place, on October 30th, when the President and Councillors, wearing their Robes of Office, received a large number of members and guests, and Miss Le Geyt gave an address in the Lecture Hall on "A Hellenic Cruise and a Visit to the Temple of Æsculapius at Epidaurus."

This year the Council decided to send Christmas Cards with letters of greeting to Fellows and Members in the Dominions and abroad. Matron Members received the beautiful King's Card of St. Paul's from the River, and the Duchess of York's Card of St. James's Park in the time of Charles II. Letters of warm thanks have been received from Fellows and Members in many parts of the world, expressing warm appreciation of these greetings from the old country.

A valuable collection of data connected with the Nursing Profession has been collected by the History of Nursing Committee, under the able and energetic Chairmanship of Miss A. M. Bushby, whose efforts have been unceasing to form a collection of original letters of Miss Florence Nightingale, original sketches of scenes in the Crimean War, and many valuable gifts, including books now out of print, prints and porcelain, and other historic treasures.

This year a "Royal Memento" Section of great interest has been introduced, and valuable treasures of crystal, prints, coins, and rare statuettes of Royal personages added; the collection thus embracing a wider field of political and historic interest. For this excellent work the Council desires to place on record its deep obligation to Miss Bushby.

The Tutorial Group has taken a very active interest in the Teaching of Nurses, and most excellent Papers have been read and printed in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. Meetings of the Group have been held monthly during the Autumn and Winter at the College;

under the very able Chairmanship of Miss D. K. Graham, and its energetic Secretary, Miss H. G. Ballard, the Group has much increased.

The Second Annual Meeting of the Group was held on Tuesday, January 26th, when Miss H. G. Ballard, M.B.C.N., the Hon. Secretary, gave generous hospitality to Sister Tutors and their friends.

The introduction this year of a more varied programme arranging for the Tutorial Group to visit Factories, etc., of educational interest in the Summer months, has been warmly supported by members of the Group. An expedition on Tuesday, May 3rd, to the Cow and Gate Factories in the West of England, when the members of the Group were most courteously received by the Firm, was much appreciated.

The Council has carefully watched events calculated to affect the economic security of its Fellows and Members, and taken the necessary steps to safeguard it when it appeared likely that this would be affected prejudicially.

The provision made for the legal protection of Fellows and Members under certain defined conditions, is proving very valuable. Like the experience of the Medical Defence Unions, when it is made clear that a Fellow or Member has the support of a powerful and financially influential body, further steps for her legal protection have proved to be usually unnecessary. When action on her behalf has been taken, the result has been successful. Letters have been received by the Council expressing the deep appreciation of those helped by legal advice.

Benevolent Grants have been made in several instances to Fellows and Members in need, and the usefulness of this Section of the Council's activities has been clearly demonstrated.

The Council has approached the General Nursing Council for England and Wales *re* the standard of knowledge of Nurse Examiners to the G.N.C., expressing in a Resolution its opinion that Nurse Examiners to the General Nursing Council should be required to pass an appropriate Examination before being eligible for appointment.

It is regretted that the Resolution and communications concerning it were withheld from the General Nursing Council, to which it was addressed, but a reply from the Education Committee was received stating that it was not the procedure of any University or Educational Body to subject its Examiners to any special Examination before they were eligible for appointment, and that at the present time it would not be practicable to put such an examination into effect, especially in view of the fact that the Council's Panel of Examiners included both Medical Practitioners and Nurses. The Council could not differentiate in their method of appointing Examiners to the Panel.

Your Council replied that University Examiners were qualified by examination before being appointed, and the Council's Panel Examiners included no medical practitioners who had not themselves been examined and approved by a statutory examination conducted by the Royal Colleges of Physicians or Surgeons. The British College of Nurses claimed that the knowledge of all Nurse Examiners should be tested in a like manner.

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