

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The sixty-third meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, February 20th, at 2.15 p.m. The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the chair, and the following Members were present: Miss M. Breay and Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., *Vice-Presidents*; Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss N. Farrant, Miss D. K. Graham, Miss G. Le Geyt and Miss K. A. Smith, R.R.C., *Fellows*; and Miss H. G. Ballard, *Member*.

Prayers having been read by the Secretary, the Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

#### BUSINESS ARISING.

Apologies were read from Miss E. Brodie, Miss E. J. Haswell and Miss Bright for inability to attend.

1. A letter of thanks from Sir Rennell Rodd, M.P., for the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* in which he wrote: "Thank you for sending me your 'Memory' of Queen Sophie. I am so glad you have also been able to record your testimony in favour of a very lovable princess, who was so misrepresented in days when, inevitably perhaps, people could not appreciate real values."

2. Letter of thanks from Sir Frederick Menzies for congratulations on receiving titular distinction.

3. Letter from Miss E. Wilkins, B.A., Principal, Public Health Department, Battersea Polytechnic, consenting to lecture at the College on March 15th.

4. Letter of thanks from Miss E. K. Adams, F.B.C.N., for Midwifery Grant of £35.

5. Letters of thanks (a) from Miss Crombie for Prize of £2 2s. od. awarded to her for the best Paper on Hospital Administration, and (b) from Miss L. A. Parry for Consolation Prize of £1 1s. od.

Other matters were reported.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

A large number of letters were received and considered. From Miss J. S. Anderson, Matron, Livingstone Hospital, Dartford; Miss J. Inglis, Hon. Secretary, County and County Borough Hospital Matrons' Association; Miss A. S. Marshall, Matron, London Temperance Hospital; Miss McQuade, stating she had passed the Examination for Tropical Diseases Course, and expressing appreciation of the courtesy she received from the Matron of the Tropical Diseases Hospital when attending the Lectures; from Miss T. M. V. Johnson, West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases; from Miss N. Molony; Miss H. H. Riggall; Miss D. Guybon Philpott, Cape Town; Miss Sallie Round, Panvel, Bombay, report of the All-India Women's Conference, Madras; from Mrs. G. Horton, National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, re Memorandum submitted to the Indian Franchise Committee; correspondence re Annual Report of the London and National Society for Women's Service calling attention to recommendations of the Society's Training and Advisory Bureau, Number 4, which is as follows: "That arrangements be made by the General Nursing Council for the preliminary theoretical work to be taken before hospital training," and Number 5, "That the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health be asked to adopt schemes for free probationers' training and for continued education till eighteen for girls intending to become nurses."

Presumably at the cost of the taxpayer.

Many letters of thanks for Diplomas and for Christmas cards, and reciprocating good wishes, from Adelaide, S. Australia; Vancouver, B.C.; Bukoba, Tanganyika Territory; Semaphore, Barbadoes, and Brantford, Ontario.

#### FINAL REPORT OF THE LANCET COMMISSION ON NURSING.

The President reported the publication of the Final Report of *The Lancet* Commission on Nursing and advised members of the Council to study it carefully, as it contained recommendations which would seriously affect the status of the Nursing Profession if carried into effect. It was agreed to place it on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting of the Council—and take other methods to give it publicity. It was agreed that in well-conducted training schools the supply of probationers was adequate, but that a higher standard of education, especially in social and ethical relations, was desirable for those who wished to enter the Nursing Profession.

#### ELECTION OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

All the Applications received were approved and all candidates were elected.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The President presented a satisfactory financial statement: £92 17s. 6d. had been received in subscriptions since the last Meeting.

#### REPORT OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION.

Miss A. M. Bushby, Chairman, reported the following acquisitions and gifts to the History of Nursing Section.

Five old coloured prints of, the Foundling Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, Pass Room, Bridewell, and Dining Hall, Asylum.

A book entitled "A Narrative of a Residence on the Bosphorus throughout the Crimean War," by Lady Alicia Blackwood.

From Miss M. Breay, two large mezzo tints of Florence Nightingale, (1) Works of Mercy, (2) Woman's Mission, from original paintings by Henry Barraud.

A bound copy of "Scutari, Bosphorus, Crimea" sketches by Lady Alicia Blackwood with Dedication to Miss Florence Nightingale.

"Life of Florence Nightingale," by Sir Edward Cook. First edition beautifully bound in green morocco.

#### Royal Mementoes Section.

Mrs. Fenwick.—A Rockingham Figure of the Duchess of Kent—Nursing the Royal Infant, Princess Victoria—the royal crown in gold impressed on her robe.

Mrs. Fenwick.—Charming small coloured print of King George and Queen Mary—and six children in youth. Seen in distance Victoria and Clock Towers and Westminster Abbey.

Mrs. John Temple.—Very fine companion Staffordshire Figures of Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort.

Mr. J. F. Smith.—Embossed portrait of Queen Victoria in youth—surrounded by an embossed wreath of rose, thistle and shamrock.

From Miss H. G. Ballard.—Coloured Prints of Queen Victoria, (1) as a child and (2) in age taken in 1899.

Also Historic Poems.

The Council thanked Miss Bushby for work on behalf of the College.

#### MISS GRAHAM'S REPORT.

Miss Graham reported that an expedition to the Cow and Gate Factory would take place on Tuesday, May 3rd.

It was agreed that any member of the College might attend the Lecture to be given by Miss Evelyn Wilkins, B.A., on "A Stimulus to Teaching," on March 15th at 5.30 p.m.

The prices of Coaching Classes were presented and revised—to be held on Tuesdays if possible.

The proposed Programme for the Tutorial Group for 1932 was approved.

#### THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

The Secretary reported that there had been 33 visitors to the College, amongst them the Countess Rudolfin de Bellegarde of Vienna.

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