

"Sports and Recreation for Nurses" Dinner, be held at Grosvenor House, W.1.

#### THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

The Secretary reported that there had been 23 visitors to the College. That in the History Section donations have been received from:—

Miss D. K. Graham	...	...	...	£5	0	0
Miss H. G. Ballard	...	...	...	1	1	0
Miss I. Macdonald	...	...	...	1	0	0

making a total of £7 1s.

Two Florence Nightingale letters signed to her baker were purchased costing £3 10s., with a deficit of 2s. 7d., leaving a balance in hand of £3 8s. 5d.

#### TO RECEIVE LIST OF GIFTS.

Miss G. R. Hale, Miss A. A. Macwilliam, Miss I. M. Stainton, Miss A. M. Bright, Flowers.

Miss H. G. Ballard, £1 1s. for flowers.

Miss I. Macdonald, 5s. for flowers.

Miss M. L. Jacobs, Maclean's Canada's National Magazine and the "Canadian Churchman."

BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, Books: "Operating Room Procedure," by Henry C. Falk, M.D.; "Diabetes: Reasons and Recipes," by Claxton and Burdekin; "Home Dry-Cleaning and Laundry Work," by Margaret Struan.

Miss E. J. Haswell (for Lending Library), "The Life of Sir Robert Jones," by Frederick Watson. Second copy for Isla Stewart Bookcase.

#### HISTORY SECTION.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, very fine statuette of Florence Nightingale (Staffordshire pottery).

Miss M. Breay, Memorial Vase of Bristol Glass, opal globe on emerald base, inscribed within a laurel wreath ("Crimea 1855").

Miss H. G. Ballard, £1 1s.; Obstetric Tables, Parts I and II, by G. Pratt, Surgeon-Accoucheur, 1835.

Miss D. K. Graham, £5.

Miss I. Macdonald, £1.

Miss P. Shekleton, "Reading the Times," a brochure.

Miss Jessie Holmes, King Albert's Book.

Miss A. S. Bryson, Scottish National War Memorial: Record and Appreciation by Sir Lawrence Weaver, K.B.E., Isla Stewart Bookcase.

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Council be held on 26th May.

#### FIXTURES.

May 26th.—Monthly Meeting of the Council. 2.15 p.m.

#### "AT HOME."

Miss M. G. Allbutt, a member of the Council of the British College of Nurses, will be "At Home" to Fellows and Members at 39, Portland Place, W.1, on Wednesday, May 23rd, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets of invitation may be obtained from the Secretary, The British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, W.1.

The Royal Mementoes which form a section of the History Collection of the College will be on view. Included in this section are ceramics, prints, needlework, and *bibelots* of the Victorian, including the Crimean period.

#### THE ANNUAL DINNER.

It has been decided not to hold the Annual Dinner until the autumn—when it is hoped a function of equal interest as its predecessors will be successfully organised.

## WORK OF THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL PSYCHOLOGY.

### CO-OPERATION AND EFFICIENCY.

Need for a spirit of sympathetic co-operation among all clinics providing psychotherapy is stressed by Sir Henry Brackenbury in the Annual Report of the Institute of Medical Psychology. The Institute, formerly known as the Tavistock Clinic, was the pioneer hospital in this branch of psychiatry, but many other clinics giving similar treatment have recently come into being. As mutual help must make for greater general efficiency, it is just as well that the idea of co-operation should be promulgated now in what are really the early days of this important branch of medical science.

Many of our old-established hospitals, Sir Henry points out, have now started psychotherapeutic departments, and many independent Child Guidance clinics have been opened in different parts of the country. The Maudsley Hospital, with its backing from the L.C.C., provides a steadily increasing service, and in its therapeutic and educational work "embraces a wider group of mental and nervous disorders than the Institute of Medical Psychology has ever aimed at touching. No rivalries save those that are friendly will ever be allowed to affect work that is so much needed and so far-reaching."

Commenting on the popular impression that mental and emotional disorders are far commoner to-day than in the past, Sir Henry Brackenbury observes that no statistics exist to prove or disprove that impression, but considers that better knowledge and more accurate diagnosis have drawn the attention of people to the magnitude of the problem of mental ill-health.

"The Institute of Medical Psychology has played its part in bringing about a state of public opinion which would have been unthinkable twenty years ago. To-day, medical men and educationalists, magistrates and the 'man in the street' are increasingly and healthily dissatisfied on this matter. There is everywhere a demand for facilities for the treatment of early 'nervous' illnesses and abnormalities of conduct. It is not difficult therefore to realise why the Institute's educational work progresses and why the Council of this Hospital and Post-graduate School should be faced perpetually with the 'House Full' problem, which money alone can solve." The amount of work done at the clinic during the year under survey increased by nearly 50 per cent. on that of the previous year.

Dr. H. Crichton-Miller, the retiring Honorary Director of the Institute, also refers to the changed attitude of the public towards psychological medicine. In 1920, he says, the general attitude was one of "indifference with streaks of sentimental approval"; and the medical profession was largely sceptical. "To-day, both the public and the profession are more open-minded than critical and are more actively co-operative." Honest work and hard-earned cures at the Institute, he claims, have contributed to the change of attitude.

Post-graduate teaching is regarded as an important part of the Institute's educational work, and Dr. Crichton-Miller considers that the "bold experiment" of a training course for physicians "completely justified itself." During the year a course was also provided for psychologists, the children's department was strengthened, and work increased among delinquents, particularly juveniles.

Daffodils and primroses grown on the Royal estates at Windsor have been sent by the King and Queen to several London hospitals, a gracious act giving much pleasure to both patients and nursing staffs.

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