

of Arc, and "Notes on Nursing" by Florence Nightingale, in Italian.

This year many treasures have been added to our collection of Royal Mementoes; statuettes of Royal Personages, prints, coins, porcelain, lustre, books, are among some of the notable items that have been acquired; the collection thus embracing a wide field of Political and Historic interest.

It will be remembered that the Council of the British College of Nurses took strong exception to the decision, in June, 1933, of the Central Public Health Committee of the London County Council to employ officers other than registered nurses, under the title of "Sister Housekeeper," pointing out that these departmental positions should be filled by nurses, if possible, and in any case the title of "Sister" should not be given to other than nurses.

The College will be pleased to know that the Central Public Health Committee of the L.C.C. has reconsidered this important matter and, as reported in our Official Journal, the title of Sister will not be employed in future for the Housekeeper.

At a meeting of the Council, the President drew attention to the constitution of the Hospitals and Medical Services Committee, recently appointed by the London County Council, and pointed out that the 23 persons appointed did not include one State Registered Nurse, although there were thousands of nurses employed by the London County Council, over whom this Committee will presumably have direction.

Ever vigilant that nurses should not be deprived of professional recognition on Public Bodies, and as there was still one vacancy, the Council promptly sent a Resolution to the Chairman of the Hospitals and Medical Services Committee, suggesting that it would be only just that expert nursing opinion should be available on the Committee, by the vacancy being filled by the appointment of a Registered Nurse.

It is to be deplored that in his reply the Chairman "regretted the vacancy was already filled."

The Council has carefully watched events calculated to effect 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 maintained and it has again been made clear that when a Fellow or Member has the support of a powerful and financially influential body, further steps for her legal protection are usually unnecessary.

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 again been demonstrated.

The Sympathy Fund, inaugurated in view of the numerous letters received from Fellows and Members in distressed circumstances, has rendered welcome assistance to Fellows and Members in need.

The Council has strongly deprecated the action of the National Council of Women of Great Britain in its attempt to alter the statutory regulations of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, now applied under its authority, for the Preliminary Examination of Nurses in Training. A full report of this important matter was published in the Official Journal.

The Council of the College learned with great relief the decision of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales in re-affirming at its Meeting on November 24th, 1933, the decision of that Council of July 22nd, 1933, "that it would not be in the interests of the candidates nor of the Profession that the Preliminary Examination should be divided."

The Bill: "to regulate the sale and advertisement of contraceptives" introduced into the House of Lords by

Lord Dawson of Penn, has been considered by the Council, and while appreciating the objects of the Bill, the Council unanimously adopted the Memorandum compiled by Miss M. Breay, drawing attention to Clause 1, Sub-section i, in which Registered Nurses and Midwives are empowered to sell contraceptives.

The proceedings and successful action taken by the Council on this matter have been fully reported in the Official Journal.

As a constituent part of the National Council of Nurses, the Council has taken a practical interest in the organisation of its work during the year, especially in connection with the Florence Nightingale International Foundation as an Educational Memorial to Miss Nightingale, which was inaugurated in London on July 5th. This Educational Memorial was inspired by the International Council of Nurses in association with the League of Red Cross Societies, and which it is hoped that ultimately all nurses' organisations in the world will be privileged to support.

Miss M. S. Cochrane, as a member of this Council and Senior Vice-President of the National Council of Nurses, was appointed to convey the Greetings of the Nurses of Great Britain to the Celebration of the Canadian Nurses' Association on its 25th Birthday in Toronto in June. With other Gifts presented a beautifully bound copy of the History of the International Council of Nurses, from its inauguration in London in 1899 to 1925, written by the President and First Vice-President, Miss Margaret Breay, suitably inscribed with a wreath of maple leaves. This Gift we learn by cable was warmly appreciated.

Notices concerning other matters of interest to the College, will be found in the full Annual Report of the Council, of which this is an abstract.

(Signed) ETHEL G. FENWICK, *President*.

#### ADMINISTRATION CLASSES.

Arrangements have been made by the Council of The British College of Nurses for Administration Classes, limited to twelve Fellows and Members, to be held this autumn by the kind permission of the authorities concerned.

1. *Tuesday, October 16th 1934.*—The Class will visit the Port of London, to see the examination of imported food and to gain some estimate of the vastness of the organisation necessary for the feeding of the people in this country.

2. *Tuesday, November 27th 1934.*—The Class will visit the very up-to-date Cunard White Star Liner *Carinthia*, especially in connection with its Hospital appointments. The Liner will be berthed in King George V. Dock, the London Docks.

All Fellows and Members who wish to join these Classes are requested to communicate as soon as possible with The Secretary, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

#### EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

The Council has decided that the following Grants shall be allocated for the year 1934-35:—

*Two Grants* for Midwifery Training and Examination by The Central Midwives Board of £35 each.

*Three Grants* of £10 each towards Hospital Housekeeping Course.

*Two Grants* of £2 2s. each for the Autumn Course of Lectures and Examination on Tropical Diseases at the Tropical Diseases Hospital, Endsleigh Gardens, London.

It was agreed to recommend that this year, instead of awarding Health Visitors' Grants, arrangements be made for Courses of Training in Venereal Diseases.

Applications for Grants should be addressed to the Secretary, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

#### FIXTURES.

*Sept. 22nd*—Monthly Meeting of the Council, 2.15 p.m.

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