

OPENING OF THE WINTER SESSION.

Never was there a more inspiring opening of the Winter Session than that held at the British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, when Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., F.B.C.N., Councillor and Hostess, welcomed upwards of ninety Fellows, Members and guests on Thursday, November 1st.

The guests were received in the Council Chamber, where, wearing their Robes of Office, the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Members of the Council were present.

Tea was served in the Secretary's Office, and when ices had completed this welcome refreshment the company passed through the hall, bright with exquisite yellow chrysanthemums and beech foliage, up the beautiful staircase to the Lecture Hall, where deep pink roses gave warm contrast against French grey coloured walls, and all re-assembled to hear an address given by the Hostess, Miss Cochrane, on "Her Canadian Experiences," in which with her characteristic genial humour she held her audience delighted.

Miss Cochrane in her speech told us of the wonderful reception and hospitality she had received in her travels in Canada, and paid special tribute to the luxurious manner in which the Canadian Pacific Railway had arranged the journey. She spoke of the loveliness of Quebec with its old-world French atmosphere, the Chateau Frontenac and the numerous churches, of Montreal with its shops and beautiful buildings resting under the shadow of the mountain.

Then of busy Toronto and the Conference. Miss Cochrane spoke of the welcome she received, the flowers, letters and good wishes on her arrival. The smoothness with which the Conference proceeded, the clearness and lucidity of the members who spoke on the various matters under discussion, and the absence of irrelevancy, which carried the business through at the maximum speed. She was impressed with the Royal York Hotel and the Convention room which at one of the entertainments held 1,500 people. This room was a beautiful sight on the occasion of the Banquet with the tables all white, decorated with pink peonies and sky-blue and silver menu cards. When the guests were seated the colouring of their frocks gave the impression of a flower garden. She told us of the presentation of gifts and greetings from Great Britain, and regretted that time would not permit of her reading extracts from the inspiring Address given by the late Dean Ira MacKay on "The Care of Life." Of the Pageant came a description of the delightful music of the choir, the reading of the Narrator, the scenes inspiring, and, in the case of the tableau of the Llandoverly Castle, most pathetic. Here again she was impressed with the splendid organisation which carried this Pageant through without a single hitch. We heard of the visit to Government House and the gracious reception by Mrs. Bruce, garden parties at Sir Joseph Flavelle's and Thistledown, receptions at Hart House, in the University and elsewhere, luncheons given by the Canadian Red Cross, the Executive Committee and Miss Gunn, of the General Hospital, Toronto, and other delightful functions which made it clear that it was not a case of all business and no pleasure. Then came a visit to London, Ontario, to stay with Miss Jacobs, a rest in the Laurentian Mountains, from there back to Montreal, to Ottawa, to New York and then home again, bringing with her, as was very evident, the happiest memories of her interesting tour.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, thanked Miss Cochrane for the very graphic description given of her "Canadian Experiences," when on her mission as a Delegate from the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee Celebration of the Canadian Nurses' Association; continuing, the President expressed the great

pleasure it gave the College Council to welcome the twenty Florence Nightingale International Students who were present, and who formed the class for 1934-1935. She knew they were earnestly at work at Bedford College, and felt sure they all realised the great distinction of selection for such tuition.

Mrs. Fenwick especially welcomed Miss Dorsey, the Warden of Florence Nightingale International House, and asked her to accept for her large family two boxes of sweets which she was delighted to present.

Miss Dorsey in accepting these gifts, thanked Mrs. Fenwick most warmly.

The President then drew the attention of those present to the great honour of having with them Miss Anna C. Jamme, from San Francisco, the famous Editor of the *Pacific Coast Journal of Nursing*, and who had held prominent posts in U.S.A. Miss Jamme, a pioneer in the organisation of nurses so long ago as 1901, was present as a young nurse at the Buffalo Congress, where she met Miss Isla Stewart, Miss Mollett, and other leaders. Miss Jamme who expressed delight at being present was invited to convey affectionate greetings to Miss Nutting.

Miss Betty Lester was also present, and was presented to the audience as the right hand of the famous Mrs. Breckinridge, renowned for her pioneer work in the promotion of the Kentucky Frontier Nursing Service, who had qualified herself in midwifery in England, and set a fine example to nurses in U.S.A. in saving the lives of poor mothers and babes.

The International Students were specially pleased to make the acquaintance of Dame Anne Beadsmore Smith and Miss Cochrane, who are taking an active part on Committees in connection with the Florence Nightingale Foundation.

Hearty applause concluded a most successful Opening Winter Session.

Of the kind donors responsible for the beautiful floral decorations we are indebted to Mrs. Wates, Miss A. A. MacWilliam and Mrs. Dudley A. Bull.

A. S. B.

FIXTURES.

Nov. 17th.—Monthly Meeting of the Council. 2.30 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION CLASSES.

The second Administration Class arranged to take place on November 27th is postponed until early in January, 1935.

OBITUARY.

The President reported, at the meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses on October 20th, with very deep regret, that news had been received of the deaths of:—

Miss Cecilia Liddiatt, Fellow, Private Nurse, on October 15th; Miss Annie Teresa Smyth, Member, on September 27th, Tutor Housekeeper at the National Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road, N.W., and Miss Rosa Ellen Wallace, R.R.C., Fellow, Matron, Dulwich Hospital, East Dulwich Grove, S.E., on October 18th, 1934.

Miss Smyth, M.B.C.N., received her general training at the National Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road, N.W., and held the Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board.

At the time of her death, she was Tutor Housekeeper at that Hospital, and passed away after an illness of only four hours from cerebral hæmorrhage.

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