

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The ninety-third Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held on Saturday, November 17th, 1934, at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, at 2.30 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and there were present: Miss M. Breay and Miss I. Macdonald, Vice-Presidents; Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss F. M. Campbell, Fellows; Miss H. G. Ballard and Miss E. F. Eburah, Members.

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

Regrets for absence were received from Miss J. C. Cowie and Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

Thanks received from Mr. J. Vaughan Cartwright and the relatives of the late Miss R. E. Wallace, for flowers and message of condolence, sent from the Council of the British College of Nurses.

The following letter received from Miss G. E. Davies, Registrar, General Nursing Council for England and Wales, in reply to a Resolution sent from the Council of the British College of Nurses:

RESOLUTION.

"That the General Nursing Council for England and Wales be requested to publish in the general Press, the names of successful candidates in the Final State Examinations, as is the custom of other Statutory and Professional Bodies."

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES,
20, Portland Place,

London, W.1.
29th, October, 1934.

Dear Madam,

I am directed to inform you that the General Nursing Council at their meeting on 26th October considered your letter of 2nd October enclosing a Resolution requesting that the names of successful candidates at the Final State Examinations be published in the general press.

In view of the fact that each candidate receives an individual notification of the result of the examination it was decided that such publication was not necessary. On enquiry, moreover, it was found that to publish the names would be exceedingly costly and also that it is not the custom either of the University of London or of the Central Midwives Board to pay for such insertions in the general press.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) G. E. DAVIES,
Registrar.

The Secretary,
The British College of Nurses,
39, Portland Place,
London, W.1.

Miss Cochrane, who proposed the original resolution, proposed that a letter be sent to the General Nursing Council deprecating its attitude of indifference to the Registered Nurses' Professional Status both in laying the letter addressed to it on the table, and in its decision to take no action. She considered that the expenditure of £300 was a small sum to spend annually in emphasising the educational status of Registered Nurses by the publication in the public press of the result of examinations by their educational body. The system was widely adopted by other professions, and its adoption would educate the public and raise its estimation of the Nursing Profession.

Miss Cochrane's motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

A report was placed before the Council enumerating the various examining bodies which gave publicity to the results of their examinations. Amongst them were the Royal Colleges of Physicians and of Surgeons, the leading Universities, the Council of Legal Education, the Bar Society,

the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, through the War Office, the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, the Royal College of Music and innumerable Colleges and Schools.

For printing certain of these lists no charge is made.

The Council were of opinion that as women who passed the Medical examinations had the benefit of publicity, the same advantage should be granted to those who attained legal status in the Nursing Profession, especially as they would provide the cost, if any, of such publication.

It was reported that a grant of £10 had been agreed towards the fees of a member taking a Sister Tutor's Course of Training and Examination.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from Miss J. C. Cowie, thanking the Council for its kind expression of regret upon her resignation of the Matronship of the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley.

Letter from Mr. W. S. Farmer, Registrar to the General Nursing Council for Scotland, in reply to enquiries concerning the Council's Register, which is not printed, and is issued in a very inconvenient form.

(a) Stating that the Council's Register is made up to the 31st of December in each year, and is published as soon as possible after that date. The price is 5s. plus 1s. postage.

(b) That owing to the expense of printing the small number of copies of the Register which are required in Scotland, the Council have hitherto had copies produced by the Gestetner process in place of printing. The question of printing the Registers will come up for reconsideration at the end of this year.

[The question of printing the Register of Nurses in Scotland was considered by the General Nursing Council for Scotland, at its meeting on November 23rd, and not adopted.—ED.]

THE DOMICILIARY NURSING SERVICES BILL.

Re Domiciliary Nursing Services Bill, the following letter had been sent from the College to Sir Gerald Hurst, K.C., M.P. :—

Dear Sir,

My Council will be greatly obliged if you will kindly inform it if the Domiciliary Nursing Services Bill is to be introduced into the new Parliament, and if so will the professional status of Registered Nurses be protected in its provisions?

I am, dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) ALICE STEWART BRYSON,
Secretary.

To which the following reply has been received :—

56, Ladbroke Grove,
W.11.
16/11/34.

Dear Madam,

I fear all private members' time is to be taken up next session by Government measures; but I shall bring in the Nursing Services Bill in an amended form, and it is possible that it may go through as being non-contentious, if the Government help.

Yours truly,
(Signed) GERALD HURST.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to Sir Gerald Hurst, asking if the professional status of Registered Nurses will be protected in the provisions of the Amended Domiciliary Nursing Services Bill.

The following letter from Miss M. Wilmshurst, General Superintendent, Queen's Institute of District Nursing, in reply to a letter from the British College of Nurses asking what action that Institute has taken in connection with the Domiciliary Nursing Services Bill, as it is noted that there is no protection for Registered Nurses in the Bill:

MISS A. STEWART BRYSON, Secretary,
The British College of Nurses.

Dear Madam,

In reply to your letter with regard to the Domiciliary Nursing Services Bill, we have been given to understand that it is not

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