

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The eighty-third Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, December 16th, 1933.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and there were present: Miss A. M. Bushby, Vice-President; Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss J. C. Cowie, Miss G. Le Geyt, Miss D. K. Graham, Miss I. Macdonald, Fellows; and Miss H. G. Ballard, Member.

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

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

RE "THE TRAINING OF NURSES."

The President drew the attention of the Council to the exhaustive account (published in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, December, 1933) of the Debate on Part I. of the State Examination, which took place at the Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales on November 24th, 1933.

The President felt sure the Council would realise the expert work entailed in this Report, and proposed from the Chair that a special Vote of Thanks be sent to Miss Margaret Breay for her invaluable service to the Nursing Profession in presenting it. This was carried with acclamation.

VOTE OF THANKS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE ONE PORTAL TO THE STATE REGISTER.

Continuing, the President expressed warm appreciation of the great service rendered by Miss E. S. Innes, R.R.C., D.N., in so promptly arousing the interest, and to such practical effect, of the authors of the very important Memorandum addressed to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, from influential persons connected with the University of Leeds, the Leeds General Infirmary and its Training School of Nurses, in which this Memorandum sets forth reasoned opposition to the proposed retrograde step to divide the Preliminary Examination of Nurses.

It was agreed that a warm Vote of Thanks be sent to Miss Innes for her active services in opposing the splitting of the Preliminary Examination.

It was also agreed that a Vote of Thanks be sent to each member of the General Nursing Council who voted to support the Recommendation by the Education Committee "That the Council is of opinion that it would not be in the interests of the candidates nor of the Profession that the Preliminary Examination should be divided."

1. The President reported that copies of the Leeds Memorandum referred to above, had been sent to the officials of the National Council of Women of Great Britain.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN AND "THE TRAINING OF NURSES."

The President reported that she had received a communication from Mrs. Keynes, addressed to her as Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, in reply to a communication sent to the National Council of Women, from the Council of the British College of Nurses. She had decided therefore that Mrs. Keynes' letter should appear in the Correspondence column.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A number of letters were received and considered, several from abroad, asking advice as to the possibility of obtaining work in England. It was agreed, with regret, to discourage nurses leaving their home countries at the present time of depression in England, unless special

arrangements for post-graduate work had been previously made; and to inform them that the private nursing section was greatly over-stocked at the present time. A letter of thanks was sent to Miss Waldron, of Johannesburg, for having dispatched to the College 100 blooms of chinchinchee, which were greatly admired last year.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

All applications received were approved and the candidates elected.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The President reported a satisfactory Financial Statement.

REPORT OF THE HISTORY SECTION.

Miss Bushby, Chairman, reported having received:—

From Miss Le Geyt, Portrait of King Edward VII as a very young man, when Prince of Wales, and an early portrait of a celebrated doctor in his carriage. These pictures were lent to the Victorian Collection held in Bruton Street.

Miss I. Macdonald, 15s. towards a Florence Nightingale Letter.

From Miss Bushby, Letter card from Florence Nightingale. Christmas presents to the College, Doll's cup and saucer, depicting Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort in a goat chaise, Windsor Castle in background, very beautiful and rare. Memorial Plate, Queen Caroline, rare Swansea pottery, Dilwyn.

Miss Bushby was thanked for valuable gifts. It was suggested a show of Royal Mementoes might be arranged in support of History Section.

MISS GRAHAM'S REPORT.

Miss D. K. Graham reported that the Dance to be given by Miss I. Macdonald, Miss B. Cutler and herself at the R.B.N.A. Club would take place in January.

THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

The Secretary reported that donations had been received for the History Section from Miss H. G. Ballard, £1, and Miss I. Macdonald, £1 1s., making a total of £2 1s. With the deficit reported at the last Meeting of 19s. 7d., the balance in hand was £1 1s. 5d.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Miss A. M. Bushby was congratulated on her election as a Vice-President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, and expressed her gratitude to those who came from a distance to vote for her.

LIST OF GIFTS.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Antique green glass door stopper.

Miss I. Macdonald, 10s. for flowers.

Late Miss Elsy Portman, Medals given by her relatives to the College:—

General Nursing Council Badge, and the Badge of the London Hospital School of Nursing.

Miss P. Shekleton, Packet of Historical post-cards of King Edward VII's Funeral, King George V.'s Coronation, etc.

Mr. Falcke, Book, "Memoirs of L. Dudley," for "Isla Stewart Book-case."

NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Council be held on Saturday, January 20th, 1934.

The Meeting then terminated.

FIXTURES.

January 20th.—Monthly Meeting of the Council, 2.15 p.m.

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