

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The eighty-sixth Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held on Saturday, March 17th, at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, at 2.15 p.m.

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 G. Le Geyt, Miss I. Macdonald, Fellows; Miss H. G. Ballard and Miss E. J. Haswell, Members.

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

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

Letter from S. E. Edge, Esq., Mayor of Walsall, stating "I now have the pleasure to send you herewith the following for you to use in connection with the History Section of the British College of Nurses." These gifts comprised a beautiful photograph of Sister Dora, in her youth, of her Souvenirs, and a large amount of literature relating to her life. It was agreed that a special Vote of Thanks be sent to Mr. S. E. Edge, the Mayor of Walsall, and also to the Mayor's Secretary, for their kindness and courtesy in bestowing upon the College this valuable and comprehensive data relating to Sister Dora.

Letter from Miss M. C. Grobel, M.A., General Secretary, National Council of Women, in reply to the letter sent on February 23rd, stating: "It is quite in order for your Council not to support any recommendations made by the National Council of Women affecting the statutory and educational status of nurses as provided for under the Nurses' Registration Act."

It was agreed to emphasize the opinion of the Council, that on matters affecting the professional education and status of registered nurses, they should be consulted before public action is taken by the N.C.W.

Postcard from the Hon. Secretary, Women's Employment Federation stating: "My Committee will much regret the decision of the British College of Nurses."

Letter sent from the British College of Nurses to the Registrar, Mr. W. S. Farmer, General Nursing Council for Scotland:

The British College of Nurses.

February 26th, 1934.

DEAR SIR.—I shall be obliged if you will be good enough to inform me how the scheme for the General Nursing Council for Scotland, that girls outside the Nurse Training Schools may be taught Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene, and examined in these subjects outside the Nurse Training Schools, is to be financed. Is it proposed that the cost of these educational courses shall be paid for by parents, by the State, by the Rates, or by the General Nursing Council for Scotland? This important aspect of the proposal is not alluded to in the new Regulations sent by you for consideration to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, and also for publication in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

An early reply to this question will oblige, as our President is addressing a Meeting on the economic aspect of pre-hospital teaching for probationers at an early date.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) ALICE STEWART BRYSON,
Secretary.

A reply was received from the Registrar General Nursing Council for Scotland stating that the letter would be submitted to the next Meeting of the Council.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Regret for absence received from Miss D. K. Graham and enclosing cheque £5 for College Funds.

Letter from Miss M. Breay sending Memorandum on Contraceptives Bill setting forth the reasons why Registered Nurses and Certificated Midwives should not be empowered to sell or offer to sell contraceptives without medical direction. It was agreed to refer this subject to (a) under Other Business on the Agenda.

Steps taken by the College in opposition to the Clause.

Letter from Miss Jessie Holmes sending book for the History Section "On Sledge and Horseback to Outcast Siberian Lepers" by Kate Marsden. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Miss Jessie Holmes.

Letter from Mrs. E. Wates, F.B.C.N., stating that her niece Miss P. Lofts, M.B.C.N., sends illustrated papers in connection with the tragic death of the late King of the Belgians, as she was in Brussels at that time, and goes on to Antwerp to take a four months' study in Tropical Diseases before returning to the Belgian Congo.

Letter from Miss D. E. Horn, M.B.C.N., expressing thanks for Library Book, "Applied Physiology," which was presented to the College by Miss I. Macdonald.

Letter from Miss L. A. Hallett, M.B.C.N., stating that she has passed her Examination in Tropical Diseases, and that she appreciated the Grant. It was agreed that a letter of congratulation be sent to Miss Hallett.

Thanks for Christmas Cards from:—

Miss A. C. Chapman, F.B.C.N., Adelaide, S. Australia.

Miss L. M. Stacey, F.B.C.N., Moorook, S. Australia.

Miss D. Warren, D.N., M.B.C.N., Barbados.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

Applications for membership were approved, and candidates elected.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The President presented a satisfactory statement of Annual Subscriptions received since the last meeting of the Council.

REPORT OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION.

Miss A. M. Bushby, Chairman of the History of Nursing Section, reported:

We have had a great find since the last Council Meeting—"Memoirs of the Verney Family," by Lady Path Verney, with an inscription by Florence Nightingale.

"Florence Nightingale, a Heroine of Mercy," by A. L. Haydon.

Two letters signed by Miss Nightingale addressed to her baker and referring to her own health.

The President thanked Miss Bushby, and the Report was adopted.

THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

The Secretary reported that since the last Meeting of the Council there had been 19 visitors to the College. That in the History Section "Good Words" 1856 was purchased, costing 6s.; with a balance in hand of 3s. 5d. this leaves a deficit of 2s. 7d.

TO CONSIDER NOTICE OF ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL.

The President reminded the Council that the Notice of Election must be advertised in the April issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and expressed sincere regret that the Council would lose the services of Miss G. Le Geyt, Miss D. K. Graham and Miss E. J. Haswell, all of whom would complete their term of office as Councilors in July.

It was agreed to publish the Notice of Election, as heretofore, in the April issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, two vacancies for Fellows and one for a Member.

TO SEND LETTER OF REQUEST TO THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, THAT THE PRESS BE PROVIDED WITH DOCUMENTS UNDER DISCUSSION BY THE COUNCIL.

The President drew the attention of the Council to the fact that at the Meeting of the General Nursing Council

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)