

Councillor and hostess, welcomed upwards of ninety Fellows, Members and guests on Thursday, November 1st, 1934. The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, together with the Councillors wearing their Robes of Office, were present. Among the guests were some twenty Florence Nightingale International Students from 15, Manchester Square, who formed the Class for 1934-35, who brought a spirit of gaiety to the party. After Tea, the party adjourned to the Lecture Hall, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick presiding. The hostess, Miss Cochrane, delivered an Address on her Canadian experiences, as delegate of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain to the Silver Jubilee of the Canadian Nurses' Association at Toronto, 1934, in which she delighted her large audience with her characteristic power of observation.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain held its Executive Committee Meetings on October 26th, 1934, and April 24th, 1935, respectively, in the Council Room at The British College of Nurses, Tea being provided by the President in the Secretary's Office. On November 21st, 1934, the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was held in the Lecture Hall of the British College of Nurses, Tea being previously served in the Council Room and Secretary's Office.

On November 26th, the League of Fever Nurses held its first General Meeting, by the kind consent of the President, in the Lecture Room of the British College of Nurses, Tea being previously served in the Secretary's Office.

It was decided to send Christmas Cards again this year, with a letter of greeting from the Council, to Fellows and Members in the Dominions and abroad. The cards included the King's beautiful card entitled "Windsor Castle from the River." Letters of warm thanks have been received from Fellows and Members in many parts of the world, expressing appreciation of these greetings sent from the old country.

The valuable collection of data connected with the Nursing Profession, collected by the History of Nursing Section, has received many notable additions during the year, under the able Chairmanship of Miss A. M. Bushby, whose efforts have been unceasing to enrich the already interesting collection, and autographed letters of Miss Florence Nightingale, including letter written by her from 10, South Street, Park Lane (two sheets), original sketches of scenes of the Crimean War and many valuable gifts, including books now out of print, mezzotints, porcelain, and other historical treasures. Very interesting additions have been a Patriotic Jug, Crimea, 1855, and a Sunderland Lustre Ware Crimean Jug. Many treasures have been added to the collection of Royal Mementoes; statuettes of Royal personages, prints, coins, porcelain, lustre, books, are among some of the notable items that have been acquired, and this year, much interesting data relating to the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty King George V.

The following Resolution was sent by the Council of the College to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales:

"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."

From the subsequent correspondence which has appeared in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, we regret to report that the General Nursing Council for England and Wales considered that "such publication was not necessary."

The provision made for the Legal Protection of Fellows and Members under certain defined conditions is maintained, and it has again been proved that when a Fellow or Member has the support of a powerful and financially influential body, further steps for her legal protection have been usually unnecessary.

Benevolent Grants have been made in a number of instances to Fellows and Members in need, and the great helpfulness of this section of the College's activities has been clearly demonstrated. A very notable addition was made this year by the great generosity of Miss I. Macdonald, who presented a cheque for £30 from her Calendar Fund, for the College Benevolent Grants, and some 21 necessitous members received Christmas gifts from the Fund "with which to make merry." Letters expressing heartfelt appreciation for this unexpected gift were received from the recipients. The Sympathy Fund, inaugurated in view of the numerous letters from Fellows and Members in distressed circumstances, has also helped many Fellows and Members in need during the past year.

In reply to an invitation from the National Council of Women of Great Britain to support the proposal of their Executive Committee to present Her Majesty The Queen with a "Loyal Address" on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee, the Council unanimously expressed the wish to be associated with the National Council of Women in this matter.

The ceremony of Registration Day was held on Saturday, December 15th, 1934. The President was in the Chair, supported by members of the Council, and welcomed ex-Councillors and friends. This year, the special feature of the ceremony was a remarkable Address delivered by Miss I. Macdonald, F.B.C.N., a Vice-President of the College, on "Elizabeth Alkin, a Florence Nightingale of the Commonwealth," her discovery of "The Lady with the Candle." This Address has since been issued in pamphlet form.

The President called the attention of the Council to a pamphlet by Dame Janet Campbell, formerly Senior Medical Officer for Maternal and Child Welfare to the Ministry of Health, entitled "Maternity Services," discussing the question under nine headings, many of considerable interest. But under section "Conditions of Training" the writer proposes to sweep away the distinctive professional status of the Registered Nurses and to substitute a hybrid type of Nurse-Midwife. For example, she writes:—

"I suggest that the most satisfactory training for the midwife would include a foundation of general nursing (one or two years) on which could be based a two-year course in midwifery. The 'midwife' could then rank professionally with the general trained nurse, but would be far better prepared for her special work than if she had taken the C.M.B. certificate after an ordinary nursing training. And her prospects would be no less good than those of the general nurse."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)