

employed only certificated nurses, who were the best paid in Victoria, and they provided the cheapest accommodation. It was really a hospital insurance system.

The sole cause of the problem of public hospitals was that tens of thousands now flocked to them who formerly did not use them. Sir James Barr further emphasised that in New Zealand nationalisation had definitely ended the charitable contributions. Patients' fees were also difficult to collect. Consequently the system was costly to the Government and to local authorities. He further pointed out that if hospitals were nationalised the medical profession would inevitably be nationalised also.

The number of notifiable cases of pneumonia in 1934 nursed by the Queen's Nurses was 14,732, as compared with 13,470 in 1932 and 15,352 in 1933; the mortality shows some improvement, being 15.6 per cent. in 1934; 17.3 per cent. in 1933; and 16.5 per cent. in 1932.

Miss Louisa Searl, of Bendigo, Victoria, Australia, who attended the Conference convened by the International Council of Nurses at Geneva in 1927, has presented to the Royal Victorian College of Nursing a framed photograph of nurses who attended this international gathering.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS.

The House Committee of the Foundation will be "At Home," for which cards have been issued, on October 11th, at 8.30 p.m., to meet the International Students, 1935-1936, who have recently come into residence at Florence Nightingale International House, 15, Manchester Square. This is a happy idea, and we feel sure all members of Committees and teachers in connection with the work, will avail themselves, if possible, of an opportunity of welcoming the new Class of nineteen Students from many parts of the world.

In the financial initiation of The Florence Nightingale International Foundation, nurses from many lands have been most generous.

In Great Britain, so far, since 1932 they have contributed £3,578. Ten scholarships have been financed, £2,500. To Endowment Fund, £528. Maintenance Fund, £50; and the National Council have £500 on deposit towards their Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Canadian nurses are financing a student and guaranteeing £250 to Endowment Fund for four years.

The American Nurses' Association announce that by September 9th the gifts from nurses to the Endowment Fund for the Foundation have been increasing all the summer, on September 9th they had attained the generous proportions of 3,026.82 dollars (upwards of £600), and report that individual nurses, students and nursing services and organisations sent them in large and in small amounts. Indian nurses, and those in South Africa and New Zealand have also done well, and all the smaller countries have given wonderfully, considering limited means.

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The one hundred and second Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held on Saturday, September 21st, 1935, at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, at 2.30 p.m.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, was in the Chair, and there were present: Miss I. Macdonald, Vice-President, Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss F. M. Campbell, Miss J. C. Cowie, Miss G. Le Geyt, Miss S. H. Vian, Fellows; Miss H. G. Ballard and Miss E. F. Eburah, Members.

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

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

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

A letter of thanks for sympathy was received from the Dowager Lady Ampthill on July 26th (reported in the August issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING), and the following letter on August 6th:

Oakley House,
Bedford.

The Dowager Lady Ampthill and family wish to express their grateful thanks for the beautiful flowers sent on July 10th.

In accordance with the decision of the Council, the following letter of congratulation was sent to the Minister of Health:

The British College of Nurses,
July 23rd, 1935.

To the Right Hon. Sir Kingsley Wood, M.P.,
Minister of Health.

SIR,—At the Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses, held at 39, Portland Place, London, W., on July 20th, the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, referred with appreciation to your recent appointment as Minister of Health, and I was desired by the Council to express to you their respectful congratulations on your accession to this important office.

They especially welcome it because the Minister of Health has certain powers in connection with the administration of the Nurses' Registration Act for England and Wales, and they are aware of the active interest taken by you, as a high official of the Ministry of Health, in conjunction with the late Sir Robert Morant, during the passage of the Nurses' Registration Bill through its various stages, and especially the Committee Stage, in the House of Commons in 1919, and they realise that you are acquainted with the principles underlying the Clauses of the Act.

I am further desired to say that there are several points in connection with the Act on which my Council would welcome an opportunity of placing their views before you, if you can find time to receive a Deputation from them in the future, and also to the proposals in relation to a Domiciliary Nursing Service; and to the Recommendations of the Joint Committee considering the details of the Essex Scheme for Nursing the Chronic Sick.

I am, dear Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
ALICE STEWART BRYSON,
Secretary.

The following reply was received:

Ministry of Health,
Whitehall, S.W.1.
July 29th, 1935.

DEAR MADAM,—Sir Kingsley Wood asked me to let you know that he has received your letter of the 23rd July, and to say that he much appreciates the congratulations of the Council of the British College of Nurses upon his appointment as Minister of Health. He will be obliged if you will be good enough to express his cordial thanks to the Council.

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