

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The half-yearly meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W., on October 24th, 1935, at 4.15 p.m. The President entertained the members present to Tea at 4 p.m.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, was in the Chair, and there were present: Miss Margaret Breay, Hon. Treasurer; Miss S. Villiers, Hon. Secretary; Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss Helen Dey, R.R.C., *Vice Presidents*; Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss Isabel Macdonald, Miss G. M. Littleboy, A.R.R.C., Miss Norah Farrant, *Directors*; Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., President Matrons' Council of Great Britain; Miss D. S. Coode, President, College of Nursing; Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, D.B.E., R.R.C., President, Association of Hospital Matrons and the Nightingale Fellowship; Miss Mercy Wilmshurst, President, Association of Queen's Superintendents; Miss H. G. Ballard, D.N., President, League of Sister Tutors; Miss E. S. Innes, R.R.C., D.N., President, Leeds General Infirmary Nurses' League; Miss D. M. Smith, President, Middlesex Hospital Nurses' League; Miss G. M. Bulman, R.R.C., President, League of Royal Free Hospital Nurses; Miss W. P. Solomon, R.R.C., President, League of Fever Nurses.

The Minutes were read by the Hon. Secretary, and confirmed and signed by the President.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

1. The following letter was read from Miss F. A. Parncutt, Hon. Secretary, The League of Mental Hospital Nurses:—

Bethlem Royal Hospital,
Beckenham, Kent.

June 10th, 1935.

DEAR MADAM,—Your reply to the letter sent to you in April last was read at the Meeting of the League of Mental Hospital Nurses, on Saturday, June 1st.

The League wish me to say how sorry they are we cannot advance with the affiliation to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain. But we hope we shall be able to do so after the November Meeting.

It is very cheering to feel that the President of your Council is in sympathy with us, as we need all the support that is possible. I remain,

Yours faithfully,

F. A. PARNCUTT,

To Miss Villiers,

Hon. Secretary.

Hon. Sec.

The President reminded those present that in the negotiations with the League of Mental Hospital Nurses the only recommendation to which it had not agreed was the suggested change of name to the Central League of Mental Nurses. It had, therefore, been agreed at the last Meeting that the Hon. Officers of the Council should meet and define a regulation for the affiliation of groups of State Registered special nurses, restricting affiliation to one central group of each class. Thus the League of Fever Nurses had been admitted to membership of the National Council, the members being very highly qualified with the dual general and infectious diseases qualification. It was agreed that the definition of the regulation should not be retrospective.

It was agreed that the Hon. Officers should meet and report to the Annual Meeting on November 20th next.

2. A letter was read from Miss Beatrice M. West, Hon. Secretary, Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association, informing the Council that "The Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association has decided that at the present time

they do not wish to place their Resolution before the National Council of Nurses" as agreed at the last Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters of regret for non-attendance were received from Miss Salton, Miss E. T. Bickerton, R.R.C., Miss Beatrice Kent, Miss M. F. Hughes, Miss MacManus, O.B.E., Miss R. E. Darbyshire, R.R.C., Miss Mary Jones, Miss Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Miss G. M. Simms, Miss M. Drakard, Miss M. Husband, and Miss E. Brodie.

Death of Queen Astrid of the Belgians.

The following telegram had been sent by Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, President, International Council of Nurses, to Mlle. Hellemans, President of the Federation of Belgian Nurses.

"Nurses throughout the world offer deepest sympathy to King and Belgian Nurses in tragic loss of your beloved Queen."

The following letter had been addressed to His Excellency the Belgian Ambassador, from the President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain:—

SIR,—On behalf of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain may I be permitted to convey to you the profound sorrow with which its members have learned of the tragic death of Her Majesty Queen Astrid of the Belgians, of whose sympathetic charm those who had the honour of being presented to her at the Palace of Laeken, in 1933, will for ever retain a fragrant memory.

The members of our Council would esteem it a great privilege should you consider it permissible to convey this expression of sincere sorrow from the Nurses of Great Britain to His Majesty The King of the Belgians, to the Belgian Royal Family, and the Belgian People.

To which His Excellency had sent the following reply:—

DEAR MADAM,—Will you please convey my grateful thanks to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain for their message of sympathy in the great national sorrow Belgium and her Royal Family have suffered in the untimely death of Her Majesty, Queen Astrid. King Leopold will, I know, deeply appreciate this mark of sympathy."

I am, yours faithfully,

E. DE CARTIER.

A letter of thanks had been sent to the Belgian Ambassador for his courtesy.

Congratulations from French Colleagues on Jubilee Day:

Letter from Mlle. L. Chaptal, President of the French National Trained Nurses' Association, sending congratulations on Jubilee Day, "this beautiful anniversary," and stating "the French Nurses' Association take part in the general joy of Great Britain, and send their English Sisters their hearty and affectionate wishes on this great occasion of the British Empire." "Just a few lines that you and your Council may feel that France unites with you all."

Thanks from the President of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation.

"DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,—At the Meeting of the Committee of Management of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, which was held on October 11th last, we were informed of the recent generous gift of £50 from the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain to be placed towards meeting the overhead costs of this year's Course, and particularly to cover the full cost of the scholar sent by the National Council.

I was asked to express the grateful thanks of the Committee to the National Council of Nurses for their generosity.

Miss Whitsed has been formally admitted to the Course for Nurse Administrators or Teachers in Schools of Nursing. She has now completed six weeks' practical observation in certain of the London Hospitals and has commenced her first term at Bedford College and the College

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