

Gratitude is not a common quality, all honour therefore to the people of Walsall, who annually commemorate on her birthday, January 16th, Sister Dora, Matron of its Cottage Hospital (now the Walsall General Hospital) from 1865-1878, whose kindness, skill and personality made such a profound impression on those to whom she ministered.

This year, printed in letters of gold, there was circulated on her birthday a handsome card from the Mayor and townspeople of Walsall. "In proud and happy memory of Dorothy Wyndlow Pattison (Sister Dora). . . Her noble and self-sacrificing labours in the cause of the sick and suffering endeared her to the hearts of Walsall people, and adorned with signal honour the Nursing Profession, and Walsall people delight to honour her." On the back is a poem by the late Arthur Brockhurst, J.P., of Walsall, the first verse of which is:

Enshrined in Walsall's heart her memory lives;  
And still her life its benediction gives  
To this old town.

Men saw the Love of Heaven in her eyes,  
And in her presence felt new hope arise  
When smitten down.

So the anniversary of her birthday saw, once again, her memory recognised with civic honours, when wreaths were placed on her statue which stands on the Bridge.

At 11 a.m. on January 16th, Mrs. S. E. Edge, the ex-Mayoress, on behalf of the Mayor and townspeople, placed a garland of flowers at the foot of the statue, and other garlands and flowers included a bouquet from the Borough Member of Parliament, Alderman J. A. Leckie, and a garland from the Central Co-operative Women's Guild.

The Mayor of Walsall, Councillor Mrs. Cresswell, who was unable to be present, as she was a patient in the Wolverhampton Eye Hospital, sent a bouquet, the inscription on which recorded that she will feel "ever grateful to the nursing profession. My tribute to Walsall Angel of Mercy, Sister Dora." The Mayor also sent a message saying that the nurses at the Wolverhampton Eye Hospital, by looking after her so exceedingly well, were emulating Sister Dora's example.

Conspicuous amongst those present at the ceremony at the statue was Miss Strachan, the Matron of the Walsall General Hospital, and later at the cemetery a further ceremony took place at which Alderman Ingram, Chairman of the General Hospital, Miss Strachan, and a large number of the nurses from the local hospitals and the Nursing Institution were present.

Other interesting letters were from Lady de Saumarez (Guernsey) Sister Dora's niece, who said it was most gratifying to the few remaining members of her family to know that she was so warmly remembered, and from the Mayor of Richmond, Yorkshire, who expressed the hope that some day he might join in the ceremony with the people of Walsall.

A group of nurses walking to Cambridge from the direction of the Fulbourn (Cambs.) Mental Hospital were run into by a car, and Staff Nurse Lilian Evans was fatally injured, and died in the hospital where she worked. Nurse Eleanor Blake sustained a broken arm. So the motor massacres continue.

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The ninety-fifth Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held on Saturday, January 19th, 1935, at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1., at 2.30 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and there were present: Miss I. Macdonald, Vice President, Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss F. M. Campbell, Miss J. C. Cowie, Fellows, Miss H. G. Ballard and Miss E. F. Eburah, Members.

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

Regrets for absence were received from Miss M. Brey, who also expressed warm thanks to the members of the Council for the beautiful flowers they had sent to her at Christmas.

In reporting this message, the President asked the Council to accept her very warm appreciation and thanks too, for lovely flowers received from the Council with kind Christmas wishes.

### BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

The following letter has been received from the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, in reply to the request of the Council of the British College of Nurses that the names of successful candidates in the Final State Examinations be published in the general press:—

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.  
20, Portland Place, London, W.1  
December 17th, 1934.

DEAR MADAM,—I have to inform you that your letter of 1st December in reference to the Council's decision not to publish the names of successful candidates in the General Press was read at the meeting of the Council on 14th December.

I am directed to inform you that, very careful enquiries having been already made in regard to this matter, the Council decided to adhere to their previous ruling.

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary,  
British College of Nurses,  
39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

G. E. DAVIES,  
Registrar.

The Council expressed regret at the decision of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales in this matter, which it considered was restrictive and unprogressive, as such lists were published daily from other educational bodies.

Re articles on the Nursing Profession by Miss Helen Simpson, published in *Time and Tide*, the following letter was sent to the Editor of *Time and Tide*:—

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

39, Portland Place, London, W.1.  
January 1st, 1935.

To the Editor,  
*Time and Tide*,

32, Bloomsbury Street, W.C.1.

DEAR MADAM,—I am instructed by the Council of the British College of Nurses, the attention of which has been drawn to Articles on the Nursing Profession by Miss Helen Simpson, which appeared in the issues of *Time and Tide* on December 15th and 22nd. My Council desires me to say that there is a strong case for an opposite point of view to that put forward by Miss Simpson, and to ask whether an article expressing these views, written by a State Registered Nurse of high standing and journalistic capacity, would be accepted by you for publication.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

ALICE STEWART BRYSON, Secretary.

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