

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The One hundred and eleventh Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held on Saturday, June 20th, 1936, 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 M. Breay and Miss I. MacDonald, Vice-Presidents, Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss S. H. Vian, Fellows, and Miss H. G. Ballard, Member.

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

The President, on rising, reported that a bouquet of flowers conveying best wishes for a speedy recovery from her serious operation had been conveyed to H.R.H. Princess Arthur of Connaught, and a telephone message had been received from Her Royal Highness that she wished to express thanks to the President and Council of the British College of Nurses for the very lovely flowers sent to her.

REGRETS FOR ABSENCE.

Regrets for absence were received from: Miss F. M. Campbell, Miss G. Le Geyt, Miss E. Eburah and Miss J. C. Cowie, who writes also concerning the expiration of her term of office on the Council of the College:—

92, Hillingdon Road, Glasgow, S.W.2.
12th June, 1936.

Dear Miss Bryson,

I am sorry not to be able to attend the next Meeting of the Council, especially as there will be no more for me.

I doubt if even those of us who are most grateful can fully appreciate the far-reaching effects of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick's work for the profession, and through it the defenceless sick and poor.

Her vision, initiative and courage command one's highest admiration and regard.

I have greatly enjoyed the privilege of contact with you all and found it an inspiration and comfort.

I enclose my subscription of £2 2s.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

JANE C. COWIE.

The Council passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Miss Cowie for her valuable services, which as specially representing Scottish nursing, were of great value to the College.

BUSINESS ARISING.

Letters expressing thanks and appreciation that they have been elected to the Council from: (a) Miss A. M. Bushby, (b) Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Fellows, (a) Miss C. E. Nelson, D.N., Member.

A communication received from Mr. L. Wilkinson, Private Secretary to the Minister of Health, in reply to a letter received from the Council *re* the Midwives Bill, published in the April issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING stating: "I am desired by Sir Kingsley Wood to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this morning about the Midwives Bill, and to say that he will give careful consideration to the representations it contains on behalf of the College."

SCOTTISH DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE RE TRAINING OF NURSES.

Letters approved by the Council sent with the Memorandum *re* the Report on the Scottish Departmental Committee on the Training of Nurses, had been forwarded to the Right Hon. Sir Godfrey Collins, M.B.E., C.M.G., M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland, and to Miss E. D. Smail, A.R.R.C., Lady Superintendent, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

Replies had been received from the Private Secretary of Sir Godfrey Collins, saying that the Memorandum will be brought to his notice, and from Miss Smail, expres-

sing thanks for the Memorandum and stating, "I think it most kind of you to keep me in touch with what your Council is doing in connection with the Scottish Departmental Committee."

GIFT OF A NIGHTINGALE BRICK.

The President reported the following letters of thanks for the gift of a "Nightingale Brick" for incorporation in the New Nurses' Home at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, at the laying of the Foundation Stone by Lady Kinnaird on May 20th.

The Royal Infirmary,
Edinburgh, 3.
22nd May, 1936.

Dear Mrs. Bedford Fenwick,

I am writing on behalf of my Board of Managers to express to you most sincere and cordial thanks for your very kindly action in presenting to this institution a brick from the London house of Miss Florence Nightingale. My Board note that you have made this gift as President of the British College of Nurses.

I would assure you that my Board are most grateful for the gift, which will link up the new Nurses' Home at the Infirmary with the house of one whom we all look upon as the founder of the nursing profession.

My Board were also very pleased to have the privilege of the company of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Jr. on the occasion of the Stone Laying ceremony by Lady Kinnaird, wife of the Lord High Commissioner. The Chairman of the Infirmary, in his speech, made particular reference to your gift, and I think that press reports of the proceedings have been sent to you by the Matron of the Maternity Hospital. The guests received the information with applause and everyone concerned was much interested and gratified.

Yours very truly,

HENRY MAW,
Secretary and Treasurer.

The Royal Infirmary,
Edinburgh,
22nd May, 1936.

Dear Mrs. Bedford Fenwick,

Will you excuse a typewritten letter, but I do wish you to know from me personally how much we appreciate your interest in our New Nurses' Home, and your kindness in sending us a "brick" from Florence Nightingale's house in 10, South Street, the "brick" to be incorporated in the new Nurses' Home which is to be called "The Florence Nightingale Nurses' Home."

It was most kind of your daughter-in-law, Mrs. Christian Bedford Fenwick, to come North with this special message from you. There was a short private ceremony in the Superintendent's office when Mrs. Christian Bedford Fenwick presented the "brick" to Sir Thomas B. Whitson, D.L., LL.D., C.A., Chairman of the Board of Managers of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

Again with most grateful and appreciative thanks,

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

E. D. SMAILL,

Lady Superintendent of Nurses.

A letter was also received from Miss J. P. Ferlie, Matron, Edinburgh Royal Maternity and Simpson Memorial Hospital, expressing great pleasure at the reception of the "brick."

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the President of the College of Nursing to enquire what action, if any, the College of Nursing is taking concerning the Midwives Bill now before the House of Commons, especially in prevention of the serious injury which must result to State Registered Nurses, and the sick, unless the Bill provides that if the Midwives employed by local authorities as whole time officers are also employed in general nursing duties, they shall also be State Registered Nurses.

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