August, 1936

The Council regretted to find that the College of Nursing had apparently not made a recommendation to the Minister of Health that the status and qualification of Registered Nurses should be protected in the proposed new Midwives Bill, as it was of opinion that Certified Midwives without such a qualification, had no right to be authorised by Act of Parliament to nurse the sick as apparently they might do if employed as "Nurse Midwives," by voluntary associations. Whilst protecting the "Certified Midwife" the Bill sacrificed the status of the "Registered Nurse."

The following Resolution sent from the Annual Meeting of the British College of Nurses re Midwives Bill, to the Minister of Health had been acknowledged.

RESOLUTION.

"That in the opinion of this Meeting, grants paid to Local Authorities, or Nursing Associations, under the Bill to amend the Midwives Acts, now before Parliament, should be made on the understanding that when a Midwife is liable to be employed in general nursing she should also hold the qualification of State Registered Nurse."

It was directed that a copy of the Resolution be sent to the press and certain persons interested in the question.

DOMINION REGISTRATION IN CANADA.

Letters reported from Canadian Colleagues re " Dominion Registration," and thanks for documents re methods of State Registration of Nurses in England.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR MRS. EMMELINE PANKHURST.

The following letter to the President from Dame Christabel Pankhurst, D.B.E., was reported :-

50, Pembridge Villas, W.11

July 2nd, 1936.

MY DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,-I am very happy to hear that you are announcing in the journal of your organisation the Service in memory of my Mother arranged for July 16th at which the Bishop of London will preach.

I hope you will be able to attend the Service ; we shall feel so glad and honoured if you can be with us.

Mother had a great affection for you and admired so much your great work for nurses and for the sick to whom they minister.

This affection and admiration I have always shared. Your kindness at the time when the King honoured the women's cause in my person touched me greatly and I should like to take this opportunity of renewing my thanks to you.

With affectionate remembrance,

Very sincerely yours, CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

The President reported that together with Miss Bryson she had attended the beautiful Memorial Service to the late Mrs. Pankhurst, held in St. John's Church, Smith Square, to represent the College. After a moving Address by the Bishop of London they joined the Procession, led by Dame Christabel Pankhurst, to the Victoria Tower Gardens and laid flowers at the foot of the Statue of Mrs. Pankhurst, so finely placed on a supremely beautiful site.

A letter was read from Miss Bell, late Lady Superintendent of the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australia, asking for a "Nightingale Brick," for the Nurses' Home of the new Melbourne Hospital, Australia.

The Council unanimously agreed that it would have the greatest pleasure in presenting Miss Bell with a "Brick," and was specially pleased that it should be given to the Royal Melbourne Hospital, in connection with which such high standards of nursing had been inaugurated by Miss Bell.

NIGHTINGALE BRICK FOR THE AUCKLAND HOSPITAL.

A letter was read from Miss Emily Nutsey expressing thanks for the "Nightingale Brick" which she hoped to present to the Auckland Hospital, New Zealand, upon her return.

CENTENARY COMMEMORATION GIFT TO VANCOUVER HOSPITAL NURSES' HOME.

Letter from Miss Grace M. Fairley, Principal, Vancouver Hospital School of Nursing, expressing great pleasure and thanks for the gift from the President of the coloured prints of His Majesty King Edward VIII, and of Her Majesty Queen Mary and her three grandchildren, which had been placed in the Nurses' sitting room, and were greatly valued and admired.

ENQUIRIES.

A very large number of letters of enquiry were received and considered from members needing advice, several on legal points, to which it was agreed to reply.

Letters offering hospitality for I.C.N. Congress. Letters notifying visits for Coronation period and Congress from Dominions and abroad.

Letters re Educational Courses.

Letter from Miss E. Armstrong, enclosing article re "Suggested New Nursing Service for Civil Hospitals in event of War," to be published in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

THE ELECTION OF A VICE-PRESIDENT.

The President expressed regret that Miss I. Macdonald's term of office as Vice-President of the College had now expired, and that, therefore, it would be necessary to elect a Vice-President in her place for the ensuing two years.

Nomination Papers were handed round, and placed in the Ballot Box, and Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., and Miss S. H. Vian were nominated.

Election Papers were then distributed, and as a result of the voting Miss M. S. Cochrane was elected Vice-President.

STANDING COMMITTEES FOR THE YEAR.

The following Standing Committees were elected :---

EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION.

Chairman.-Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C.

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND LEGAL PROTECTION.

Chairman.-Miss M. Breay.

SOCIAL SCHEMES.

Chairman.-Miss I. Macdonald.

FINANCE.

Chairman.-Dr. Bedford Fenwick.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Chairman.-Miss G. Le Geyt.

HISTORY OF NURSING.

Chairman.-Miss A. M. Bushby.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

Applications for Membership were received, and all the applicants were elected.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The President presented the Financial Statement for the month.

REPORT OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION.

Miss A. M. Bushby, Chairman, presented the following Report :-

I must apologise to the Council that I omitted to report a gift from Miss Brodie, a most interesting collection of cuttings, cards, King Albert's Book, Special Birthday edition, and orders, etc., relating to the late War.

Miss Allbutt has given 2s. 6d. towards a Nightingale letter.

I have obtained a letter from Miss Nightingale, written from Scutari, also part of original envelope written Scutari, July 17th, 1855, to Mrs. Bowman re Mrs. Tuffill (Nurse), King's College Hospital. She was sent to Scutari with Miss Nightingale, had an excellent report as to work and character.

The President thanked Miss Bushby, and the Report was adopted.



