

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The Monthly Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, September 19th, at 2.30 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and all the Members of the Council were present: Miss M. Breay and Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Vice-Presidents; Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss F. M. Campbell, Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Miss I. Macdonald, Miss G. Le Geyt, and Miss S. H. Vian, Fellows; Miss E. F. Eburah, Miss C. E. Nelson, D.N., and Miss D. de M. Warren, D.N., Members.

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

On rising, the President said it gave her great pleasure to welcome Miss D. de M. Warren, who had been appointed to fill the third Member's vacancy on the Council.

#### BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

(1) Letter from Mr. W. J. Barnes, News Editor of the *Daily Herald*, in reply to the President's protest that they had refused to publish the resolution sent from the British College of Nurses' Annual Meeting *re* the Midwives Act, as it affected most injuriously the status of the Registered Nurse; the *Daily Herald* claimed to protect the economic status of the worker, which, in this instance, it had signally failed to do.

(2) Appointment of Registrar, the General Nursing Council for Scotland. The Resolution which was sent from the Council of the British College of Nurses to the Press and Nursing Organisations, claiming that

the Registrar should be a Registered Nurse, was published in *The Times* on July 28th, and replies acknowledging the Resolution had been received from:

(a) Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., Chairman, General Nursing Council for Scotland.

(b) Miss G. E. Davies, Registrar, in the absence of Miss E. M. Musson, Chairman, General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

(c) The Private Secretary of the Rt. Hon. Sir Godfrey Collins, K.B.E., C.M.G., M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland.

(d) Secretary for Department of Health for Scotland.

It was to be regretted that the Medical and Scottish press had failed to support the claim of the College that a Registered Nurse should be appointed to fill this responsible professional position.

Letter from the Rev. W. Smith, M.A., Chaplain, Partis

College, in reply to enquiries concerning provisions for inmates when sick and unable to care for themselves, as the question had arisen in connection with invalid nurses in analogous institutions.

The Rev. W. Smith wrote:—

"In reply to yours of 10th inst., I have to say since 1929 an extension has been added to Partis College, which provides for three pensioners *when occasion arises through extreme old age and senility*, and unable to carry on their own houses, and who give up their houses and reside permanently at the extension. There is an extra bedroom for emergency cases of illness of a few weeks' duration.

There is a qualified nurse.

"But as ladies on election are mostly, practically in all cases, healthy, and leading a quiet and simple life, and free from anxiety all conduce largely to longevity, and the contingency of serious illness doesn't often arise.

"Of course, operation cases, etc., are treated at a hospital. We have only 30 pensioners, who have been engaged in various occupations—teaching, lady companions, missionary work, etc. We have only a few retired nurses."

The Council desired that the Rev. W. Smith be thanked for his courteous and useful reply to its enquiries.

#### THE EXPLOITATION OF NURSES.

The Council had under consideration communications from Miss M. Moon, calling attention to the fact that she had suffered serious exploitation concerning a course of teaching for which she had paid.

The Council, in sympathy with Miss Moon's complaint, regretted that before entering into such a contract Miss Moon had not sought advice at the Office, and in order to warn members

in future against exploitation, unanimously agreed to the following Resolution:

#### RESOLUTION.

"At the Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses, held on Saturday, September 19th, it was unanimously resolved to advise its members that before entering into a contract for tuition involving the payment of large sums of money, it might be advisable to seek information of the Council as to the *bona fides* of the contracting party concerned, with a view to the prevention of exploitation and the loss of their money."

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter was submitted from Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., Chairman, General Nursing Council for England and Wales:—



MISS DOROTHY DE M. WARREN, S.R.N., D.N.,  
NEW MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)