

Sir Arthur Wauchope added that the police were prosecuting an enquiry with the utmost vigour.

2. The following official communiqué was issued by the High Commissioner on the 18th August:

"The High Commissioner expresses his deepest sorrow and abhorrence at the recent brutal murders and attacks made on perfectly innocent people.

"He is confident that with the exception of some murderous individuals the whole of the people of Palestine will share his detestation of these horrible crimes culminating in the murder in Jaffa of two Jewish nurses when returning to Jaffa Government Hospital, where they had devoted themselves to the healing of the sick regardless of race or creed.

"The High Commissioner relies on all members of the public to assist the authorities in the prevention of all acts of attempted murder and violence."

3. Mr. Ormsby Gore is quite sure that the High Commissioner can be relied upon to take every measure practicable in the circumstances for the prevention of the recurrence of such instances, but the difficulties with which the Palestine administration is faced in dealing with such acts will, no doubt, be appreciated by your Council.

4. Mr. Ormsby Gore desires to associate himself with the sympathy expressed by the High Commissioner in his communiqué.

I am, Madam,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) O. G. R. WILLIAMS.

The Honorary Treasurer,
National Council of Nurses
of Great Britain.

The following acknowledgment has been sent to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge with sincere thanks your letter of September 9th, on behalf of Mr. Secretary Ormsby Gore, in respect to the cable sent by the Jewish Nurses' Association, Jerusalem, to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, concerning the murder of Jewish Nurses in Palestine, and conveyed through the Foreign Office to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I am greatly obliged for the text of the official communiqué issued by the High Commissioner in Palestine on August 18th, which will be presented to the next meeting of our National Council and conveyed to our colleagues in Palestine, by whom it will be received with sincere appreciation, as will also the notification that Mr. Ormsby Gore desires to associate himself with the sympathy expressed by the High Commissioner in his communiqué.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

ETHEL G. FENWICK,

President.

To

The Under-Secretary of State,
Colonial Office, S.W.1.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN TO THE PRESIDENT JEWISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.
September 19th, 1936.

DEAR MADAM,—In the name of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain I must first express to you, and to the Jewish Nurses' Association, our deep sympathy in the sorrow which has overwhelmed it by the deaths of two Jewish Nurses in so cruel and terrible a manner.

I desire to acquaint you that, on receiving your cable, I took immediate steps to bring it to the notice of the Government, and now send you a copy of the letter I have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to whom it was forwarded, from which you will realise how sympathetically

it was received by him, and his desire to support the High Commissioner in Palestine in his efforts to prevent the occurrence of similar crimes.

With sympathetic wishes for the prosperity of your Association in the good work its members are doing under such difficult circumstances, and expressing the earnest hope that, in the near future, peace and good will may be restored in Palestine,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

ETHEL G. FENWICK,
President.

NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

MENTAL HOSPITAL MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The 54th Quarterly Meeting of the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association was held at Bethlem Royal Hospital, Beckenham, Kent, on Saturday, September 12th, 1936, by kind invitation of the Governors of the Hospital, the Physician-Superintendent, Dr. J. G. Porter-Phillips and the Matron, Miss S. Hearder.

Dr. Porter-Phillips welcomed the members on behalf of the Governors, himself, and the Matron, Miss Hearder, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet so many leading ladies in the Mental Nursing Profession.

Before the business meeting, the members were shown something of the history of this ancient Royal Hospital by lantern slides of pictures from "The History of Bethlem Royal Hospital," by the Rev. E. J. O'Donoghue, which were explained by Dr. Porter-Phillips.

In his opening remarks the speaker took his hearers right back to the earliest days of the Hospital. This Royal and Ancient foundation can trace back its origin as a Monastic Institution to A.D. 1247 when it was known as the Priory of St. Mary of Bethlehem and was then situated in Bishopsgate. Four hundred years later the Hospital was removed to Moorfields and subsequently, in 1812, another edifice was erected in St. George's Fields, Southwark, ruins of which can still be seen in the Lambeth Road.

A hundred years later it was decided that a less restricted atmosphere was desirable for the activities of the Hospital, and in 1930 these ideals were realised with the opening of the present Hospital by Her Majesty Queen Mary, at Monks Orchard, Beckenham, Kent.

Dr. Porter-Phillips then gave instructive details of the new Bethlem Royal. Situated in a beautiful old park the Hospital is one of the most up-to-date of its kind for the treatment of patients suffering from nervous and mental disorders. He said that the special and peculiar feature of this Hospital is made evident by the provision of separate villas or buildings, each of which functions as an independent reception hospital, an asset of enormous value which belongs to this Hospital alone.

At the conclusion of the talk the audience were shown a series of pictures of former eminent Physician-Superintendents of the Hospital, men who had done much in the past towards making Bethlem Royal what it is to-day. The last picture to be shown on the screen was that of the present Physician-Superintendent, Dr. Porter-Phillips, which demonstrated very clearly that Bethlem Royal is more than maintaining its exceptionally high professional standard in its long list of eminent Physician-Superintendents.

At its conclusion the Chairman, Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., President of the Association, thanked the speaker for his instructive talk and for the interesting lantern-slides which had given such a vivid insight into the past history of the Hospital, and its steady advancement and progress in the art of healing by Medical Science and the nursing care of to-day.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)