

CENTENARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF KAISERSWERTH.

Letter from Marie Gallison, Deaconess at Kaiserswerth, of thanks for congratulations sent from the Council of the British College of Nurses on the centenary of the foundation of Kaiserswerth, and enclosing pamphlet, "The History of Women: One Hundred Years of Women's Work at Kaiserswerth, 1836—1936," written by herself.

Letter from Lord Horder, Chairman, Joint Committee on Voluntary Sterilisation, asking if the Council would consider if they are now in a position to give their support to this movement. The Council unanimously agreed that it could not officially take part in this movement as there was a difference of opinion amongst the members of the College, and each must have liberty of opinion and action.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

Applications for Fellowship and Membership were received, and all were elected.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The President presented a satisfactory financial statement for the month.

REPORT OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION.

Miss A. M. Bushby, Chairman, reported: Since the last meeting I have obtained a small book, which is very interesting, "A Volunteer Nurse," by Annie Thacker, Franco-German War of 1870—1871. Publisher, Abbott, Jones and Co., Ltd., 4, Adam Street, Strand, 1897. Inscribed "A presentation copy to John Eggerton, Esq., with kind regards, Mrs. Thacker."

The outline of "The History of Nursing," prepared by James K. C. Liu and Gladys E. Stephenson, S.R.N., S.C.M., for the Chinese.

Florence Nightingale letters reported last Council, but they were not placed before the Committee. They were written in 1845, 10 years before she left for the Crimea. They are not dated, but she mentions her old nurse's (Mrs. Gale) death, and she died in 1845. One letter is signed "F. N." and the other just "Florence": they were both written from Embley Park.

The photograph I am sending Miss Nightingale's relations, to ask them to be good enough to inform me who the second photograph represents.

I had hoped to have had to-day two books to put before you; but they have not arrived: "St. John's House and History, and its surroundings," also the "Experiences of two nurses in Mashonaland."

The President thanked Miss Bushby for her interest and generosity, and the Report was adopted.

THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

The Secretary reported on the daily activities of the College, and that in the History Section there had been received on approval a coloured print of "The Funeral Cortège of Lord Raglan leaving Headquarters." This was a rare print and they hoped to purchase it.

LIST OF GIFTS.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.—Miniature on ivory of Miss Nightingale in original red morocco case.

Miss I. Macdonald.—Series of pamphlets on Kaiserswerth.

Mrs. Marie Gallison.—"The Ministry of Women" (pamphlet). One Hundred Years of Work at Kaiserswerth.

Miss P. Shekleton.—"History of the Great War," by Churchill.

Miss Gladys E. Stephenson, S.R.N., S.C.M.—"The History of Nursing in China," prepared by James K. C. Liu, Vice-President, N.A.C., member of the Central Board of Nursing Education, and Gladys E. Stephenson, Member of Board of Supervision, N.A.C.

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.—"Palestine on the

Eve," by Ladislav Farago; "Our Baby for Mothers and Nurses," by Mrs. J. Langton Hewer.

Miss M. Breay.—"The History of the War with Russia," and flowers.

Miss P. Lofts.—Roses.

Miss A. S. Bryson.—Flowers.

Miss M. Angel.—Beech and flowers.

Miss B. Bowering.—Flowers.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Council be held on Saturday, November 21st, at 2.30 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS.

The President reported that at its meeting on October 21st the General Nursing Council for Scotland had elected a Registered Nurse, Miss Ruth Hope Pecker, to fill the vacancy of Registrar, at a salary of £600 per annum. This appointment would be specially gratifying to the Council, which took the initiative action, by Resolution, to urge this reform, this valuable professional position having been held by a layman in Scotland for the past 17 years.

The Council realised the value of fearless publicity in bringing forward professional demands.

The meeting then terminated.

OBLIGATIONS.

At the conclusion of the Meeting a number of Fellows and Members took the Obligation and were welcomed into the College by the Council, with whom they afterwards had tea.

THE OPENING OF THE WINTER SESSION.**THE NURSING OF THE CHRONIC SICK.**

Full of good fellowship and of determination to forward professional progress for the benefit of humanity, Fellows and Members assembled at the Opening of the Winter Session of the British College of Nurses held on November 3rd, at 39, Portland Place, London, W.

The President, supported by members of the Council wearing their Robes of Office, received the members and guests in the beautiful Council Chamber, and the floral decorations of rich autumn colours, enhanced by the brightness of cheery fires, gave a warm welcome from the inclement weather without.

Tea was served in the Secretary's office, gay with chrysanthemums and autumn leaves of richest shades, and where much animated conversation ensued on matters topical and otherwise.

At 5 o'clock, all assembled in the Bedford Fenwick Hall, where pink roses and carnations looked their best.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and on rising said it was usual at the Opening of the Winter Session to bring forward some topical question, and she felt this year they had before them a very topical and most important professional subject—The Nursing of the Chronic Sick.

The President continuing said: "We know there are many chronic sick, ill from a multitude of complaints, and that they suffer from the result of general diseases; this point must be kept well in mind when discussing this question, because there is a General Register of Nurses, of which the Nursing Profession is very proud. It is a great gift from the pioneers of nursing organisation, and very dearly paid for in time and money. It is essential at this juncture that Registered Nurses should determinedly oppose any attempt to depreciate professional standards attained by ceaseless and conscientious effort for the benefit of the public welfare."

The President then called upon a Fellow who is an expert in the nursing of the chronic sick to address the meeting on the subject.

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